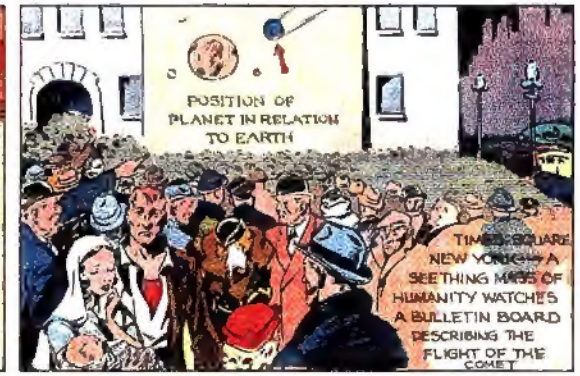
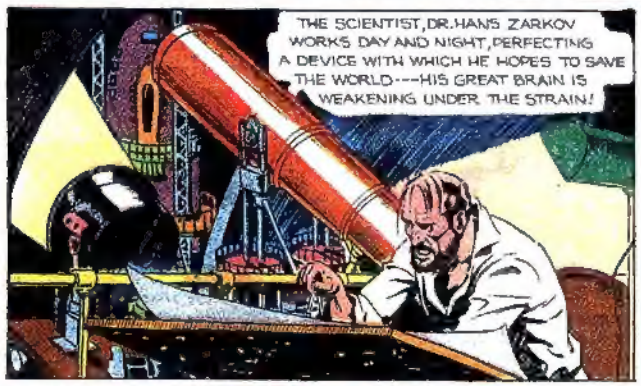
WORLD COMING TO END
STRANGE NEW PLANET RUSHING TOWARD EARTH-ONLY MIRACLE CAN SAVE US, SAYS SCIENCE
XTRA

IN AFRICAN JUNGLES TOM-TOMS ROLL AND THUNDER INCESSANTLY AS THE HOWLING BLACKS AWAIT THEIR DOOM!

THE ARAB IN THE DESERT RESIGNED TO THE INEVITABLE FACES MECCA AND [illegible] HIS SALVATION


POSITION OF PLANET IN RELATION TO EARTH
TIMES SQUARE NEW YORK--- A SEETHING MASS OF HUMANITY WATCHES A BULLETIN BOARD DESCRIBING THE FLIGHT OF THE COMET


THE SCIENTIST, DR. HANS ZARKOV WORKS DAY AND NIGHT, PERFECTING A DEVICE WITH WHICH HE HOPES TO SAVE THE WORLD---HIS GREAT BRAIN IS WEAKENING UNDER THE STRAIN!

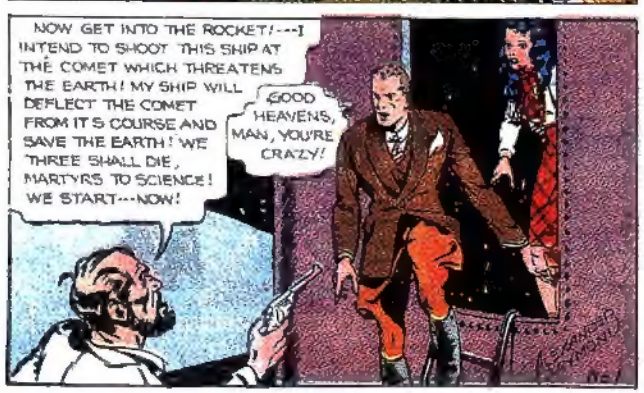
ABOARD AN EASTBOUND TRANSCONTINENTAL PLANE WE HAVE FLASH GORDON, YALE GRADUATE AND WORLD-RENOWNED POLO PLAYER, AND DALE ARDEN, A PASSENGER

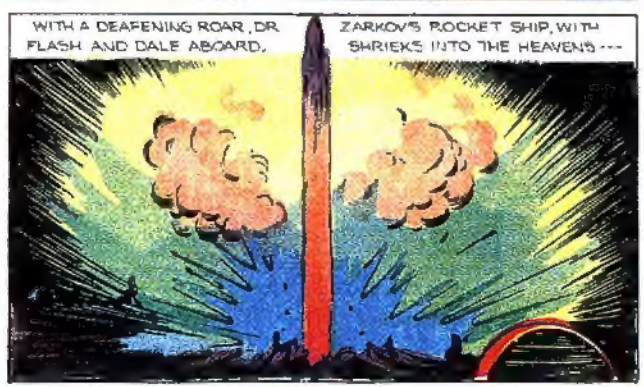
SUDDENLY A FLAMING METEOR, TORN LOOSE FROM THE APPROACHING COMET, ROARS PAST THE PLANE, SHEARING OFF A WING---THE PLANE FLOUNDERS HELPLESSLY---

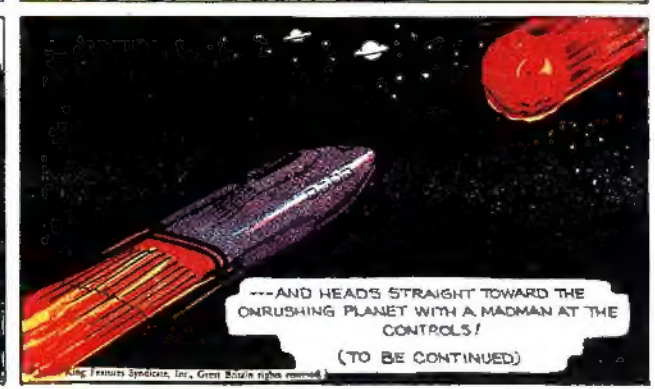
---AND DIVES! FLASH TAKES THE GIRL IN HIS ARMS AND BAILS OUT!---HIS 'CHUTE OPENS WITH A CRACK!---THEY FLOAT EARTHWARD

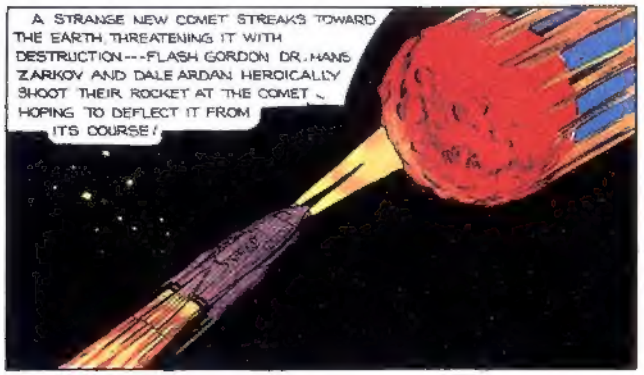
LANDING NEAR DR ZARKOV'S GREAT OBSERVATORY, FLASH FREES HIMSELF OF HIS PARACHUTE

WHAT'S THE IDEA? PUT UP THAT GUN! WE'RE FRIENDS---
FRIENDS, BAH! YOU'RE SPIES! YOU'VE COME TO MAKE MY SECRET KNOWN TO THE WORLD!---THEY SHALL NEVER KNOW!---- COME WITH ME!
A DISHEVELED, WILD-EYED FIGURE CONFRONTS THEM!

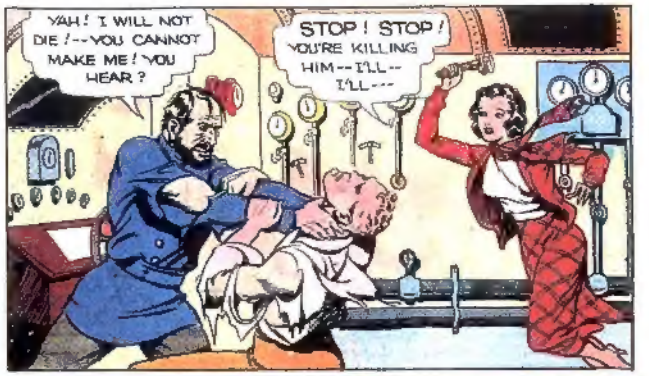

NOW GET INTO THE ROCKET!---I INTEND TO SHOOT THIS SHIP AT THE COMET WHICH THREATENS THE EARTH! MY SHIP WILL DEFLECT THE COMET FROM IT'S COURSE AND SAVE THE EARTH! WE THREE SHALL DIE, MARTYRS TO SCIENCE! WE START---NOW!
GOOD HEAVENS, MAN, YOU'RE CRAZY!


WITH A DEAFENING ROAR, DR. FLASH AND DALE ABOARD, ZARKOV'S ROCKET SHIP, WITH SHRIEKS INTO THE HEAVENS---


---AND HEADS STRAIGHT TOWARD THE ONRUSHING PLANET WITH A MADMAN AT THE CONTROLS!
(TO BE CONTINUED)


A STRANGE NEW COMET STREAKS TOWARD THE EARTH, THREATENING IT WITH DESTRUCTION---FLASH GORDON DR. HANS ZARKOV AND DALE ARDAN HEROICALLY SHOOT THEIR ROCKET AT THE COMET - HOPING TO DEFLECT IT FROM ITS COURSE!

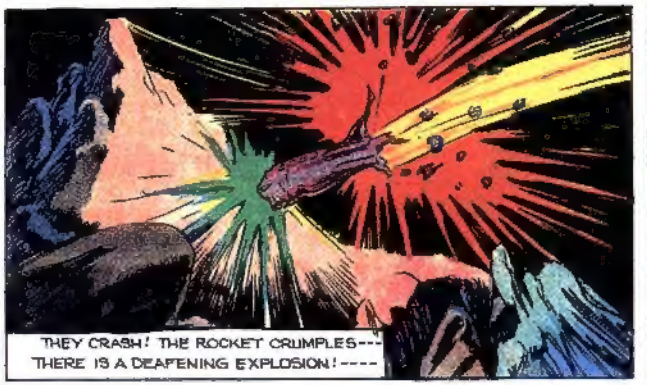
I CAN'T DO IT! -- I CAN'T DO IT! --- WE'LL ALL BE KILLED!
WE MUST! -- WE MUST SAVE THE EARTH! --- LET ME AT THE CONTROLS!
OH, FLASH -- LOOK OUT! --- HE'S GOING MAD!

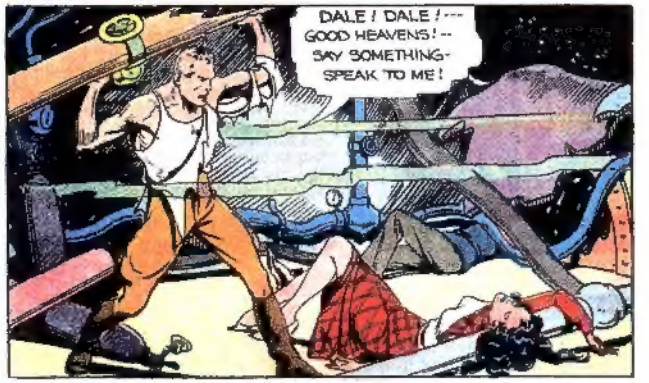

YAH! I WILL NOT DIE! --- YOU CANNOT MAKE ME! YOU HEAR?
STOP! STOP! YOU'RE KILLING HIM -- I'LL -- I'LL ---

FLASH DESPERATELY TEARS HIMSELF LOOSE -- HE LUNGES AT THE DOCTOR, SWINGING BOTH FISTS VICIOUSLY -- THE DOCTOR CRASHES TO THE FLOOR, KNOCKED OUT!

AT THIS INSTANT THE ROCKET ROARS OVER A BEAUTIFUL CITY, SPARKLING LIKE A HUGE DIAMOND ON THE RUGGED SURFACE OF THE NEW PLANET

THE GRAVITATIONAL FORCE OF THE PLANET EXERTS ITSELF ON THE ROCKET AND DRAWS IT DOWNWARD --- A MOUNTAIN LOOMS AHEAD! ---


THEY CRASH! THE ROCKET CRUMPLES --- THERE IS A DEAFENING EXPLOSION! ----

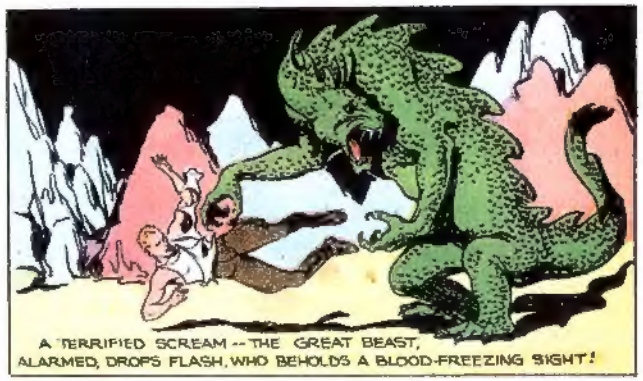

DALE! DALE! --- GOOD HEAVENS! -- SAY SOMETHING - SPEAK TO ME!

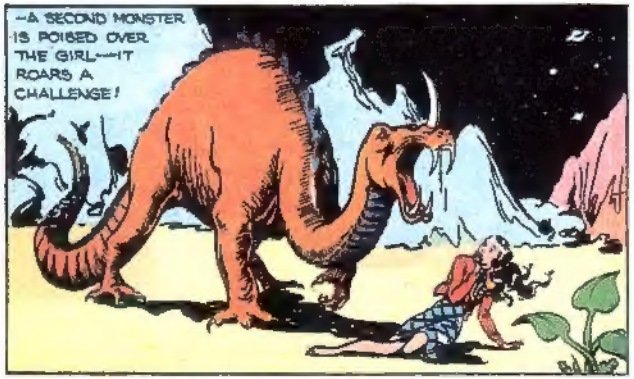
SHE'S STILL BREATHING --- IF I CAN ONLY GET TO THAT CITY IN TIME!

FLASH STAGGERS TOWARD THE DISTANT CITY WITH HIS PRECIOUS BURDEN --- SUDDENLY OUT OF THE DARKNESS, LOOMS A HORRIBLE FIGURE! --- IT MOVES SLOWLY FORWARD -----
ALEXANDER RAYMOND
TO BE

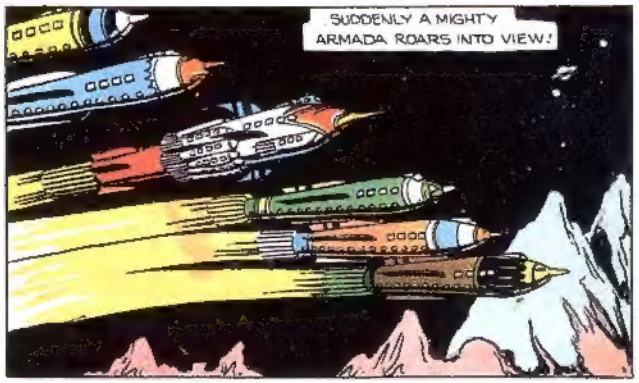
FLASH GORDON, CARRYING THE UNCONSCIOUS DALE ARDAN TO THE DISTANT CITY, AFTER THE CRASH OF THEIR ROCKET SHIP ON THE NEW PLANET BECOMES AWARE OF THE PRESENCE OF A GREAT MONSTER --- HE DRAWS HIS CLASP-KNIFE AND AWAITS THE CHARGE!

FLASH RAINS BLOWS ON THE ANIMAL --- THE BLADE CANNOT PIERCE ITS TOUGH HIDE --- HE IS DRAWN SLOWLY TOWARD THE GAPING JAWS


A TERRIFIED SCREAM -- THE GREAT BEAST, ALARMED, DROPS FLASH, WHO BEHOLDS A BLOOD-FREEZING SIGHT!

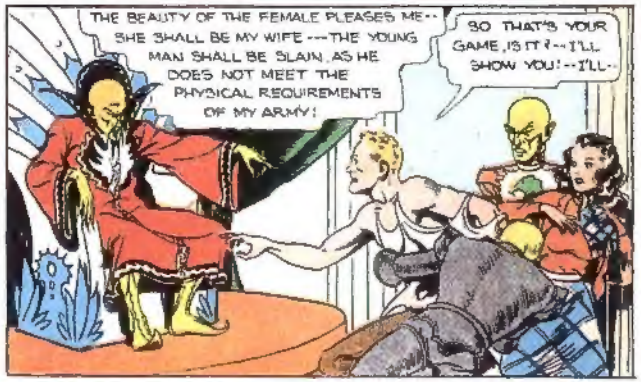

--A SECOND MONSTER IS POISED OVER THE GIRL---IT ROARS A CHALLENGE!

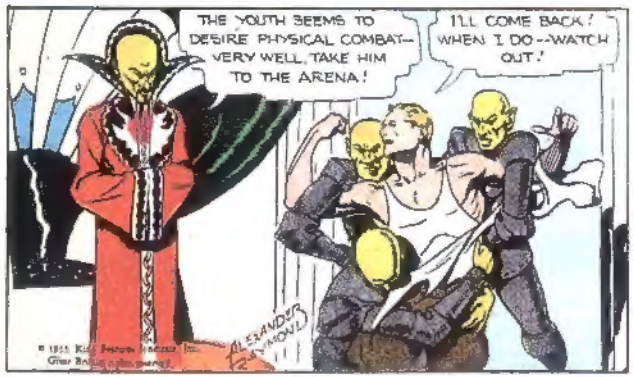
THE GROUND TREMBLES AS THE GIANT ANIMALS FIGHT TO THE DEATH OVER THEIR HORRIFIED PREY!

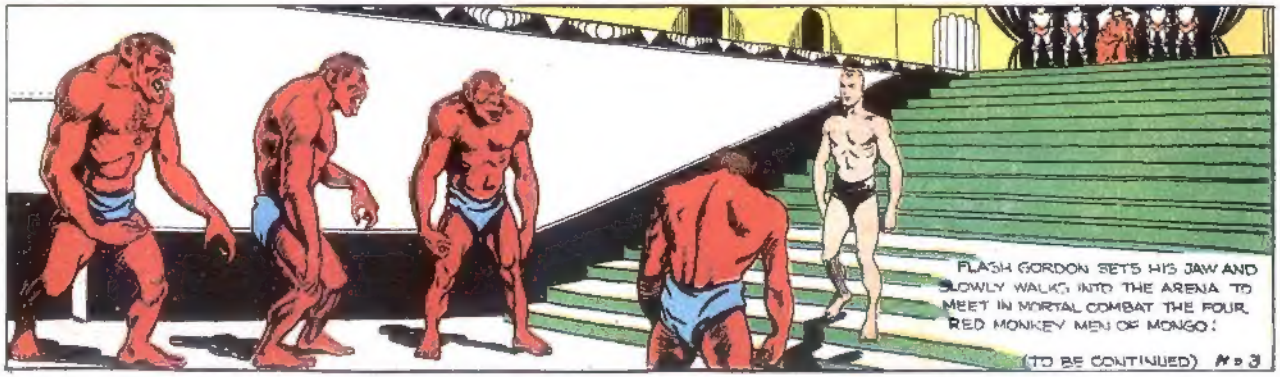

SUDDENLY A MIGHTY ARMADA ROARS INTO VIEW!

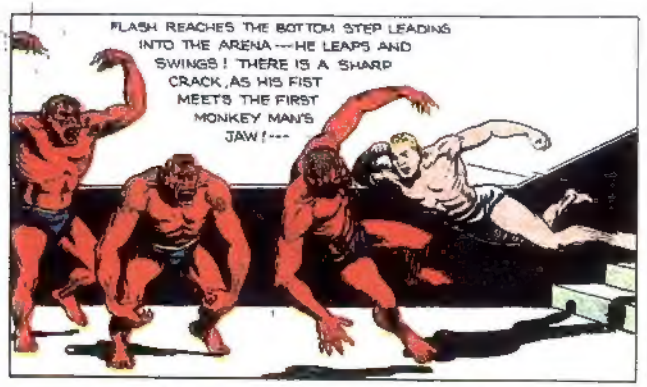
THE LEADER NOSES HIS SHIP DOWNWARD --- THERE IS A CRACKLE OF ELECTRICITY -- THE FIGHTING MONSTERS TOPPLE OVER ---!

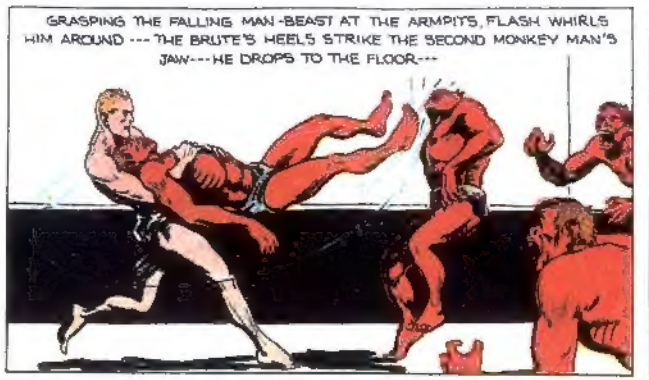
THE SPACE SHIP LANDS --- THREE STRANGE FIGURES EMERGE ---
GEE, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU, SIR -- YOU SAVED OUR LIVES -- YOU ---
STAND BACK! YOU ARE BOTH MY PRISONERS - I SHALL BRING YOU TO THE EMPEROR OF THE UNIVERSE!

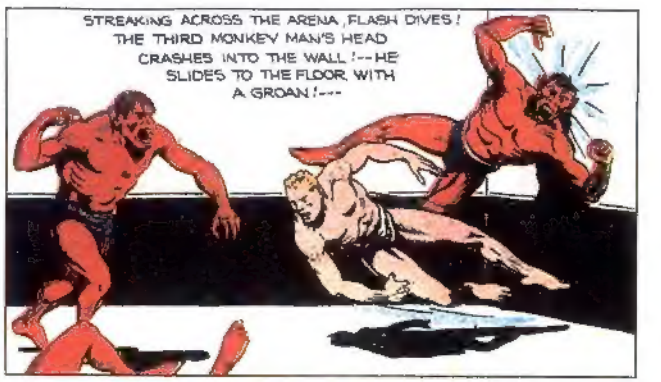

THE BEAUTY OF THE FEMALE PLEASES ME -- SHE SHALL BE MY WIFE --- THE YOUNG MAN SHALL BE SLAIN, AS HE DOES NOT MEET THE PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS OF MY ARMY!
SO THAT'S YOUR GAME, IS IT? -- I'LL SHOW YOU! -- I'LL --

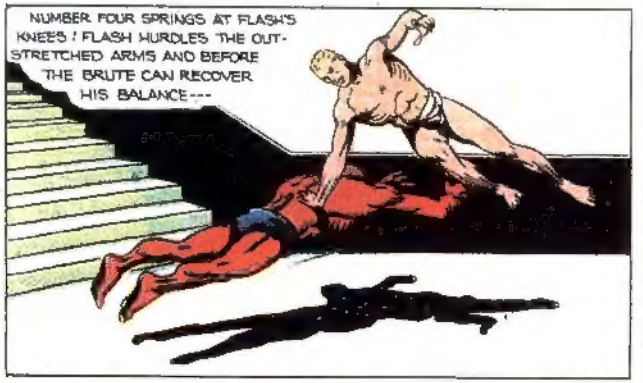

THE YOUTH SEEMS TO DESIRE PHYSICAL COMBAT -- VERY WELL, TAKE HIM TO THE ARENA!
I'LL COME BACK! WHEN I DO -- WATCH OUT!


FLASH GORDON SETS HIS JAW AND SLOWLY WALKS INTO THE ARENA TO MEET IN MORTAL COMBAT THE FOUR RED MONKEY MEN OF MONGO!
(TO BE CONTINUED) No 3

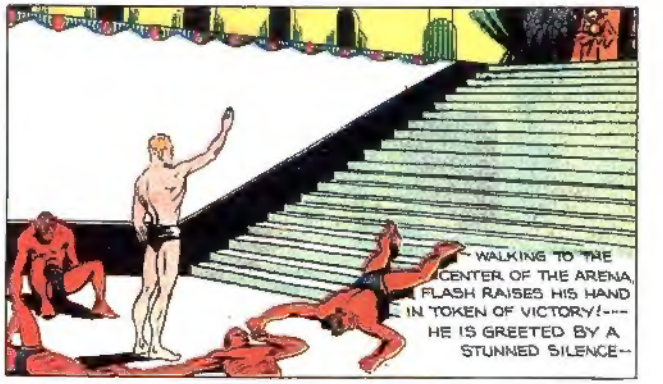

FLASH REACHES THE BOTTOM STEP LEADING INTO THE ARENA---HE LEAPS AND SWINGS! THERE IS A SHARP CRACK, AS HIS FIST MEETS THE FIRST MONKEY MAN'S JAW!---


GRASPING THE FALLING MAN-BEAST AT THE ARMPITS, FLASH WHIRLS HIM AROUND --- THE BRUTE'S HEELS STRIKE THE SECOND MONKEY MAN'S JAW---HE DROPS TO THE FLOOR---

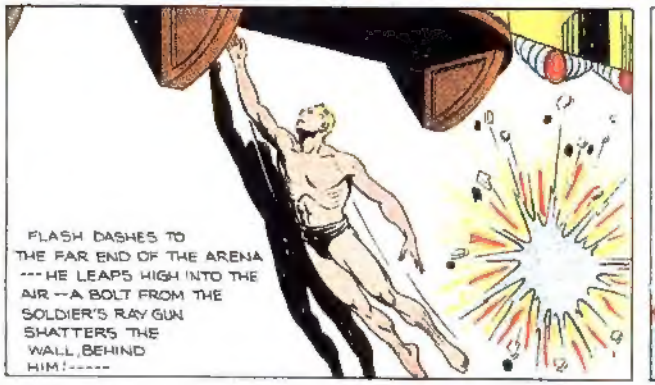

STREAKING ACROSS THE ARENA, FLASH DIVES! THE THIRD MONKEY MAN'S HEAD CRASHES INTO THE WALL!--HE SLIDES TO THE FLOOR WITH A GROAN!---


NUMBER FOUR SPRINGS AT FLASH'S KNEES! FLASH HURDLES THE OUT-STRETCHED ARMS AND BEFORE THE BRUTE CAN RECOVER HIS BALANCE---

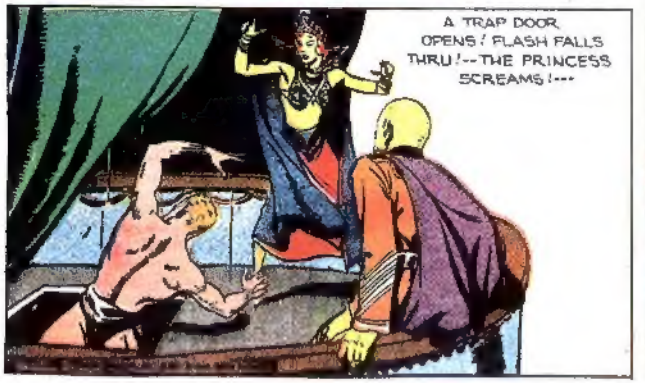
---FLASH PINIONS HIM WITH A DEADLY GRIP!--- THE MUSCLES WRITHE AND RIPPLE UNDER HIS GLISTENING SKIN AS THE YOUTH EXERTS PRESSURE ------


WALKING TO THE CENTER OF THE ARENA, FLASH RAISES HIS HAND IN TOKEN OF VICTORY!--- HE IS GREETED BY A STUNNED SILENCE--

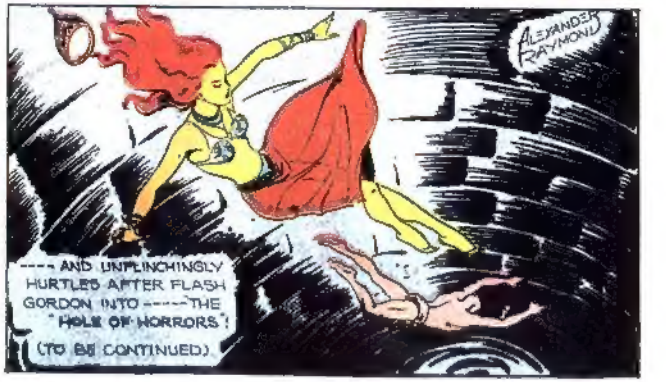
SHOOT HIM! SHOOT HIM DOWN IN HIS TRACKS!---HE CANNOT MAKE A FOOL OF ME!
THE EMPEROR SPRINGS TO HIS FEET SHAKING WITH RAGE!--


FLASH DASHES TO THE FAR END OF THE ARENA ---HE LEAPS HIGH INTO THE AIR --A BOLT FROM THE SOLDIER'S RAY GUN SHATTERS THE WALL, BEHIND HIM!-----

STOP! STOP, I SAY! IF YOU KILL THIS MAN, YOU MUST ALSO KILL ME!
AS HE SWINGS HIMSELF INTO THE BOX OCCUPIED BY THE DAUGHTER OF THE EMPEROR SHE FLINGS HERSELF IN FRONT OF HIM!


A TRAP DOOR OPENS! FLASH FALLS THRU!--THE PRINCESS SCREAMS!---

TWISTING HERSELF FREE OF THE CLUTCHING HANDS OF HER ESCORT, SHE LEAPS INTO THE OPENING---
No 4


ALEXANDER RAYMOND
---- AND UNFLINCHINGLY HURTLES AFTER FLASH GORDON INTO -----THE "HOLE OF HORRORS"!
(TO BE CONTINUED)

A WATER PIPE PROTRUDES FROM THE WALL ---HE GRABS IT ---- AND HANGS ON!
TURNING, TWISTING, GATHERING SPEED EVERY SECOND FLASH PLUNGES DEEP INTO THE "HOLE OF HORRORS!"--
GRIPPING THE PIPE FIRMLY, FLASH LEANS FAR OUT AND CATCHES THE FALLING PRINCESS!--HE GASPS WITH PAIN AS THE SHOCK ALMOST TEARS HIS ARM FROM IT'S SOCKET!
WITH A MIGHTY EFFORT FLASH PULLS HIMSELF TO A STANDING POSITION ON THE PIPE--- BEADS OF COLD PERSPIRATION GLISTEN ON HIS BODY, AS HE BEHOLDS----- THE HIDEOUS WATER DRAGONS OF MONGO!
NOTICING AN INCLINED PASSAGEWAY, ACROSS THE PIT, FLASH INSTRUCTS THE GIRL TO TWINE HER ARMS ABOUT HIS NECK---HE LEAPS!----
---"THEY MAKE IT! THE GREAT BEASTS CHARGE! THE PRINCESS RAISES HER ARM --- THE MONSTERS HESITATE--
--FEARLESSLY SHE RUSHES AT THEM! THE DRAGONS SLIDE BACK INTO THE WATER!
BACK! BACK, I SAY! PRINCESS AURA OF MONGO COMMANDS YOU!---
TAKING FLASH BY THE HAND, SHE LEADS HIM TO A WALL AT THE FAR END OF THE PASSAGE---SHE PRESSES A STONE--THE WALL ROLLS BACK, REVEALING AN ELEVATOR!
ENTER!
THEY STEP INTO THE ELEVATOR--- PRINCESS AURA TOUCHES A CONTROL THEY SHOOT UPWARD, FAR ABOVE THE CITY, TOWARD A ROCKET!--
NOW! YOU ARE MINE! DALE ARDAN SHALL NOT HAVE YOU! I SHALL HOLD YOU HERE UNTIL SHE BECOMES MY FATHER'S BRIDE!
TELLING FLASH HE WILL BE SECURE AGAINST THE WRATH OF HER FATHER, THE EMPEROR, SHE BIDS HIM ENTER THE SHIP---HE DOES--SHE SLAMS THE DOOR AND BOLTS IT!
WHILE PLANNING A POSSIBLE MEANS OF ESCAPE, FLASH DONS SOME CLOTHES HE FINDS ON THE SHIP--SUDDENLY HE HEARS AN EAR-SPLITTING CRASH!--HE RUNS TO THE WINDOW--
GREAT SCOTT! THIS IS AWFUL!--
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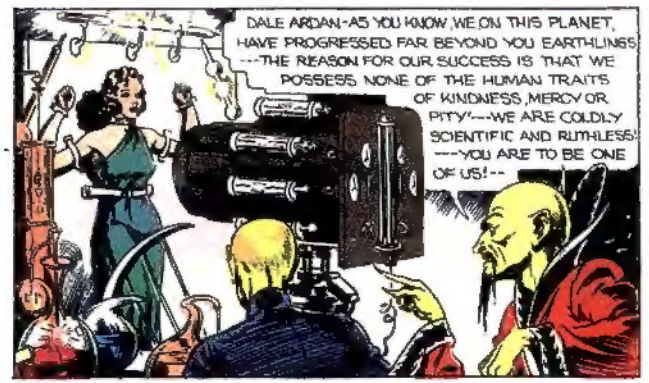
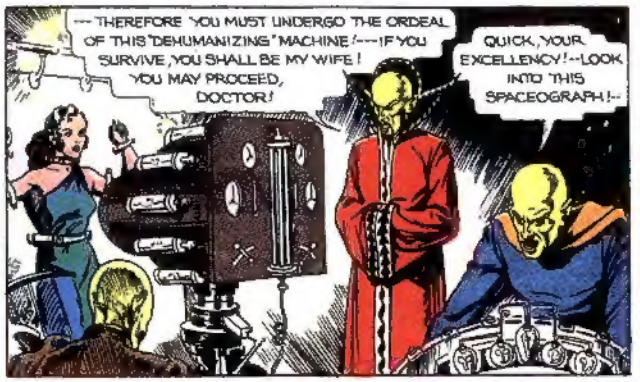
A SQUADRON OF DEADLY SPACE-GYROS SPINS OVER THE CITY, BOMBARDING IT!
ALEXANDER RAYMOND
FLASH, THINKING ONLY OF THE SAFETY OF DALE ARDAN WITHIN THE PALACE, LEAPS TO THE CONTROLS AND SENDS HIS SHIP SCREAMING TO THE ATTACK!
8-4
TO BE CONTINUED

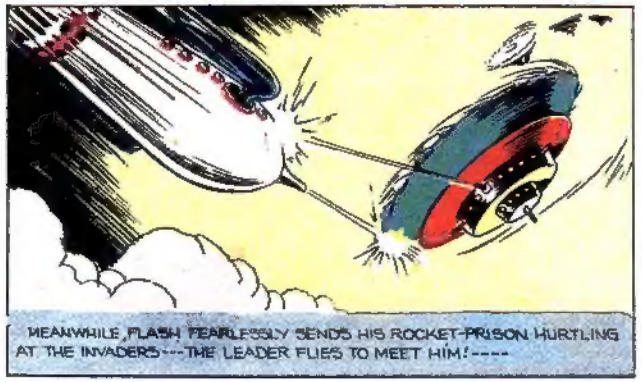
AFTER IMPRISONING FLASH IN HER SPACE SHIP PRINCESS AURA IS BROUGHT BEFORE HER ENRAGED FATHER--
I AM SORRY, FATHER, BUT I LOVE HIM! I CANNOT TELL YOU WHERE I HAVE HIDDEN HIM!
SO, YOU DEFY ME! IT IS NOT ENOUGH THAT YOU SHOULD MAKE A FOOL OF ME BEFORE MY SOLDIERS, WHEN I ORDERED HIS DEATH!---VERY WELL--

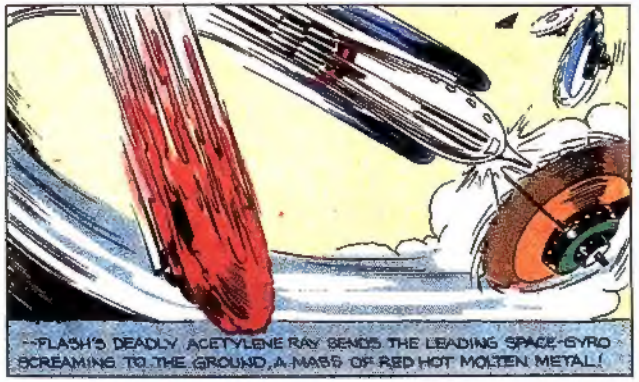
---YOU SHALL BE TAKEN BY THESE TWO WARRIOR WOMEN TO THEIR COUNTRY OF ICE AND SNOW AND BITTER COLD! THERE, FOR SIX MONTHS, YOU SHALL SERVE AS A COMMON SOLDIER IN THEIR ARMY! AWAY WITH HER!
OH, MY FATHER! NOT THAT! ANYTHING BUT THAT!--

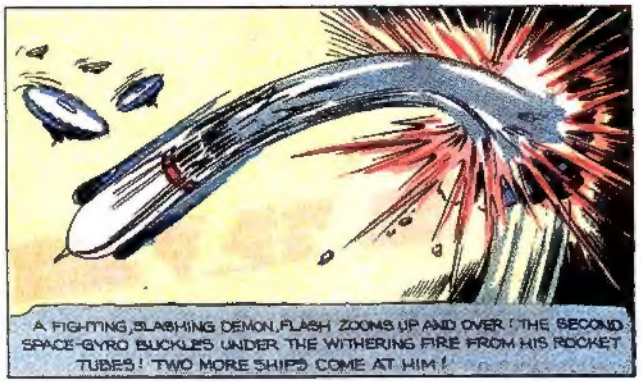

DALE ARDAN-AS YOU KNOW, WE ON THIS PLANET, HAVE PROGRESSED FAR BEYOND YOU EARTHLINGS ---THE REASON FOR OUR SUCCESS IS THAT WE POSSESS NONE OF THE HUMAN TRAITS OF KINDNESS, MERCY OR PITY!---WE ARE COLDLY SCIENTIFIC AND RUTHLESS! ---YOU ARE TO BE ONE OF US!--

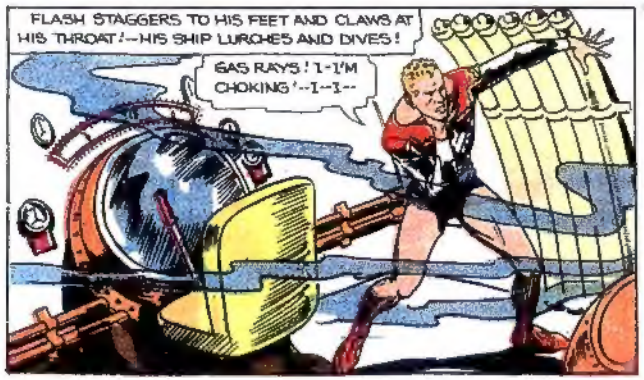

--THEREFORE YOU MUST UNDERGO THE ORDEAL OF THIS "DEHUMANIZING" MACHINE!---IF YOU SURVIVE, YOU SHALL BE MY WIFE! YOU MAY PROCEED, DOCTOR!
QUICK, YOUR EXCELLENCY!--LOOK INTO THIS SPACEOGRAPH!--

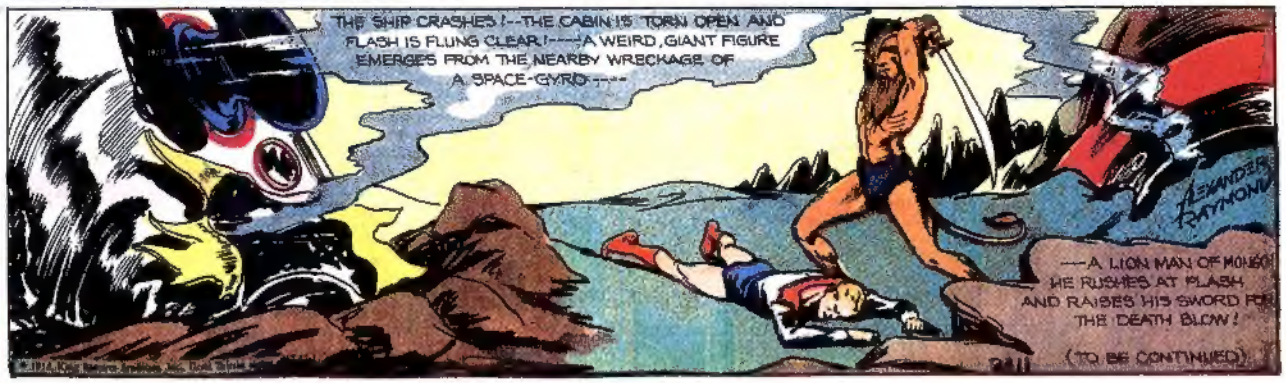
OUR CITY IS BEING BOMBARDED BY SPACE GYROS!
QUICK! ORDER MY ENTIRE SPACE FLEET INTO THE AIR!-- IMMEDIATELY!

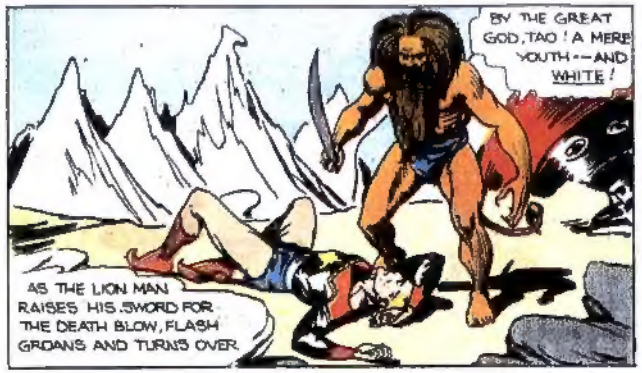

MEANWHILE, FLASH FEARLESSLY SENDS HIS ROCKET-PRISON HURTLING AT THE INVADERS---THE LEADER FLIES TO MEET HIM!----

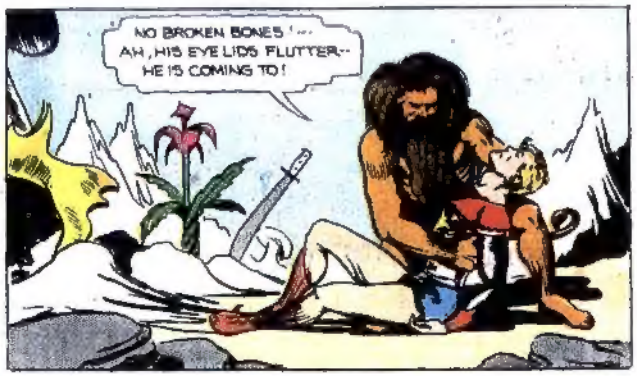

--FLASH'S DEADLY ACETYLENE RAY SENDS THE LEADING SPACE-GYRO SCREAMING TO THE GROUND, A MASS OF RED HOT MOLTEN METAL!

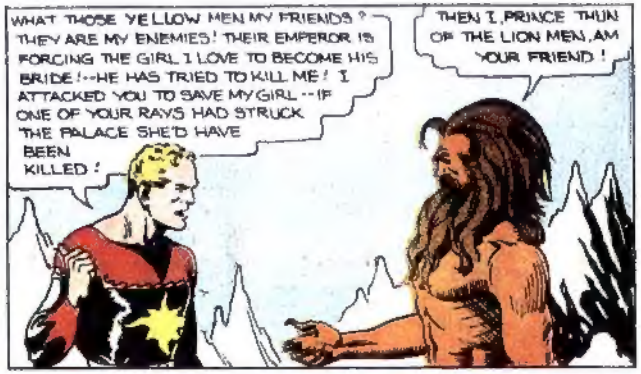

A FIGHTING, SLASHING DEMON, FLASH ZOOMS UP AND OVER! THE SECOND SPACE-GYRO BUCKLES UNDER THE WITHERING FIRE FROM HIS ROCKET TUBES! TWO MORE SHIPS COME AT HIM!

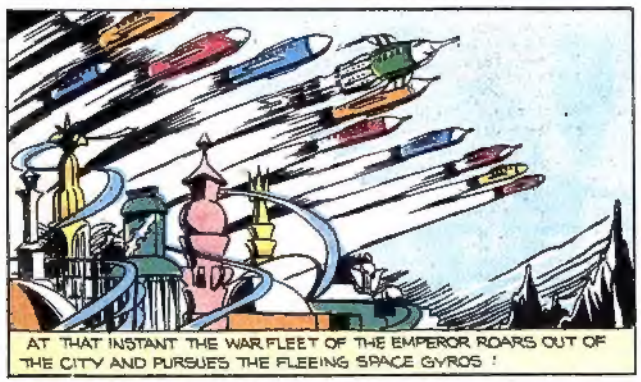

FLASH STAGGERS TO HIS FEET AND CLAWS AT HIS THROAT!--HIS SHIP LURCHES AND DIVES!
GAS RAYS! I-I'M CHOKING!--I--I--


THE SHIP CRASHES!--THE CABIN IS TORN OPEN AND FLASH IS FLUNG CLEAR!----A WEIRD, GIANT FIGURE EMERGES FROM THE NEARBY WRECKAGE OF A SPACE-GYRO----
ALEXANDER RAYMOND
---A LION MAN OF MONGO! HE RUSHES AT FLASH AND RAISES HIS SWORD FOR THE DEATH BLOW!
(TO BE CONTINUED)

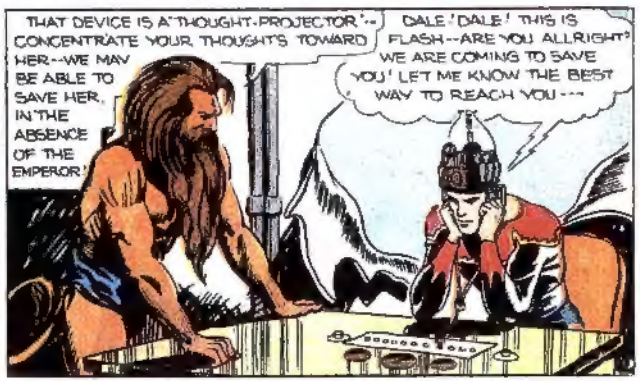

BY THE GREAT GOD, TAO! A MERE YOUTH--AND WHITE!
AS THE LION MAN RAISES HIS SWORD FOR THE DEATH BLOW, FLASH GROANS AND TURNS OVER.


NO BROKEN BONES!--AH, HIS EYE LIDS FLUTTER--HE IS COMING TO!

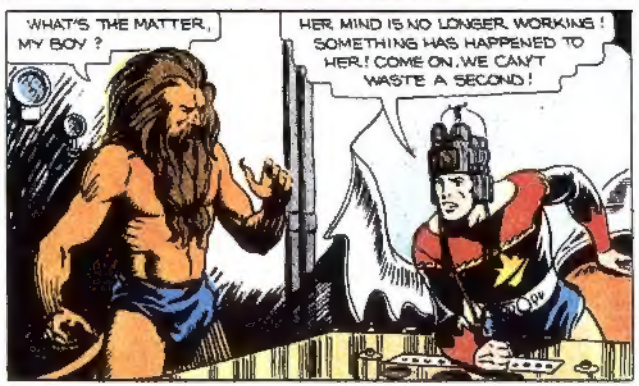

WHAT THOSE YELLOW MEN MY FRIENDS? THEY ARE MY ENEMIES! THEIR EMPEROR IS FORCING THE GIRL I LOVE TO BECOME HIS BRIDE!--HE HAS TRIED TO KILL ME! I ATTACKED YOU TO SAVE MY GIRL--IF ONE OF YOUR RAYS HAD STRUCK THE PALACE SHE'D HAVE BEEN KILLED!
THEN I, PRINCE THUN OF THE LION MEN, AM YOUR FRIEND!


AT THAT INSTANT THE WAR FLEET OF THE EMPEROR ROARS OUT OF THE CITY AND PURSUES THE FLEEING SPACE GYROS!

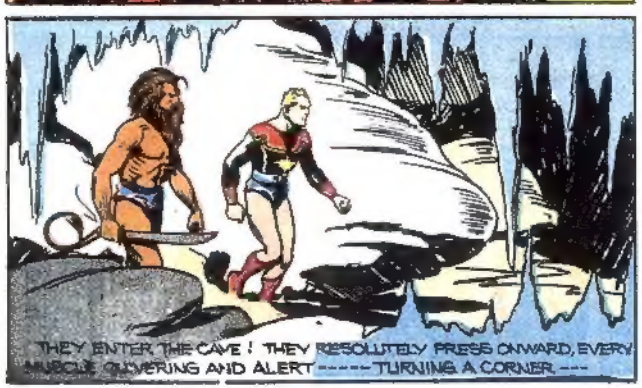
OUR CAUSE IS HOPELESS, BUT YOURS MAY NOT BE!--COME WITH ME, TO MY WRECKED SPACE GYRO--

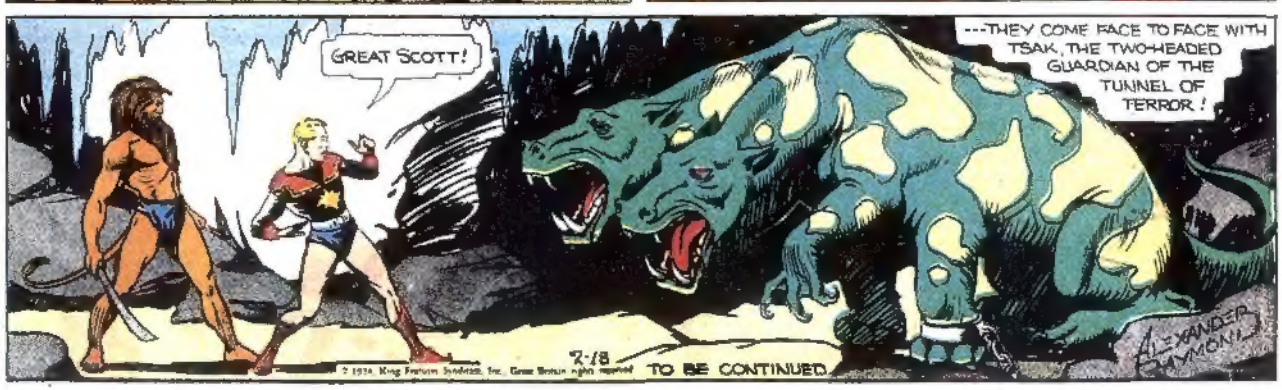

THAT DEVICE IS A 'THOUGHT-PROJECTOR'--CONCENTRATE YOUR THOUGHTS TOWARD HER--WE MAY BE ABLE TO SAVE HER, IN THE ABSENCE OF THE EMPEROR!
DALE! DALE! THIS IS FLASH--ARE YOU ALLRIGHT? WE ARE COMING TO SAVE YOU! LET ME KNOW THE BEST WAY TO REACH YOU---

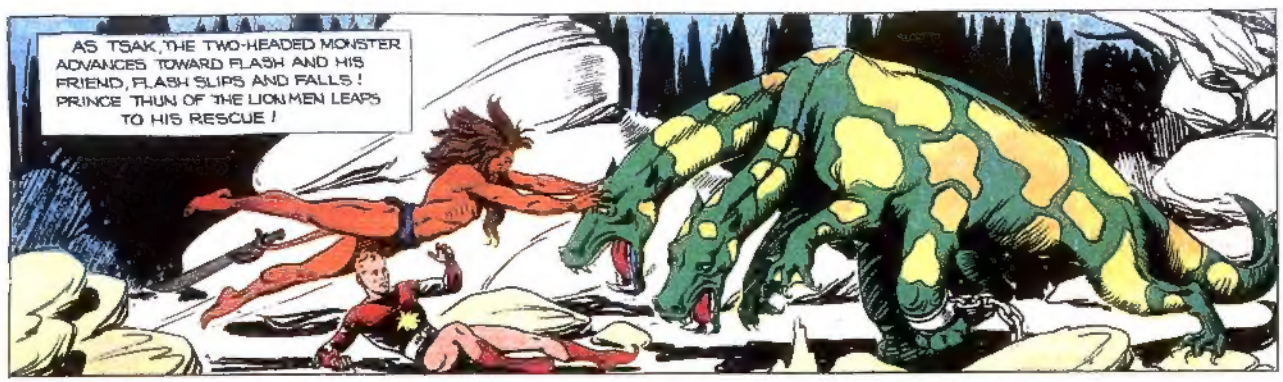
OH, FLASH, CAN IT REALLY BE YOU? I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!--DON'T TRY TO SAVE ME! IT IS HOPELESS EVERY GATE IS GUARDED! THE TUNNEL, SOUTH OF THE CITY IS IMPASSABLE! DON'T TRY, I BEG YOU!

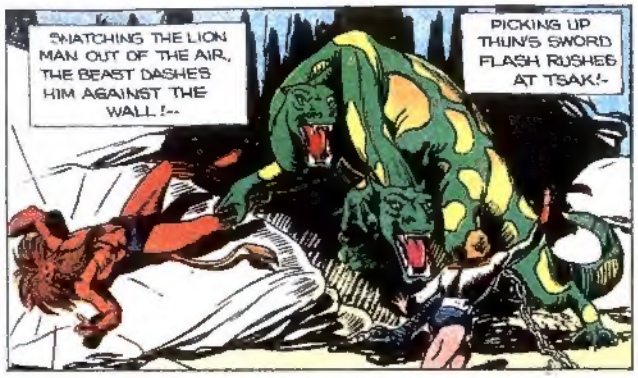

WHAT'S THE MATTER, MY BOY?
HER MIND IS NO LONGER WORKING! SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TO HER! COME ON, WE CAN'T WASTE A SECOND!

AFTER A LONG RUN, THEY COME TO A TUNNEL, FLANKED BY TWO GOLDEN DRAGONS
THIS MUST BE IT---ARE YOU GAME TO GO IN WITH ME?


THEY ENTER THE CAVE! THEY RESOLUTELY PRESS ONWARD, EVERY MUSCLE QUIVERING AND ALERT-----TURNING A CORNER---


GREAT SCOTT!
---THEY COME FACE TO FACE WITH TSAK, THE TWO-HEADED GUARDIAN OF THE TUNNEL OF TERROR!
2-18
TO BE CONTINUED
ALEXANDER RAYMOND


AS TSAK, THE TWO-HEADED MONSTER ADVANCES TOWARD FLASH AND HIS FRIEND, FLASH SLIPS AND FALLS! PRINCE THUN OF THE LION MEN LEAPS TO HIS RESCUE!


SNATCHING THE LION MAN OUT OF THE AIR, THE BEAST DASHES HIM AGAINST THE WALL!--
PICKING UP THUN'S SWORD FLASH RUSHES AT TSAK!-

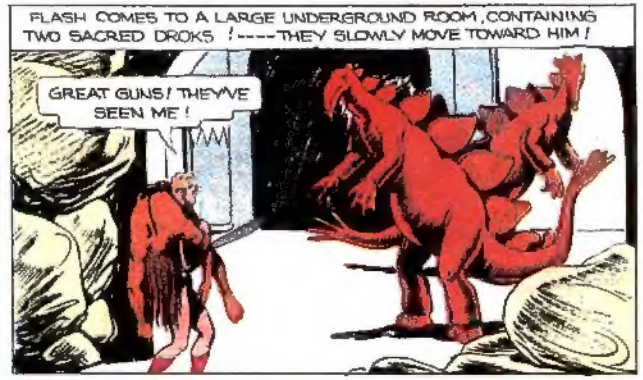
AVOIDING THE YAWNING MOUTHS AND CLUTCHING TALONS, FLASH DIVES UNDER THE BEAST AND THRUSTS WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH!

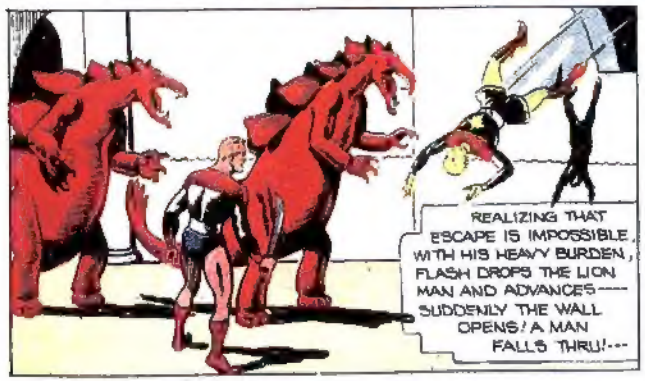
BELLOWING IN PAIN, TSAK SEIZES FLASH!---THE HIDEOUS HEADS COME CLOSER AND CLOSER--- FLASH STRIKES AGAIN AND AGAIN!

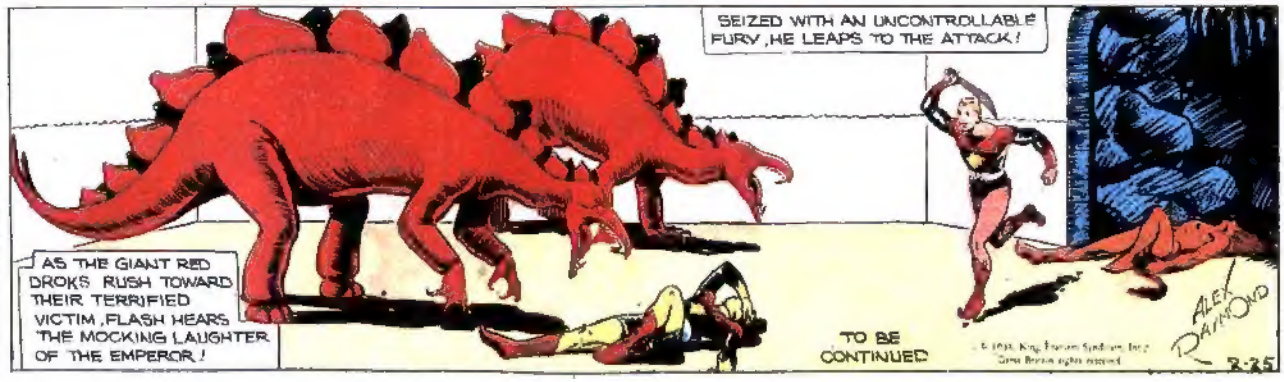
SUDDENLY TSAK COLLAPSES AND SINKS TO THE GROUND!
BOY, THAT WAS A CLOSE SHAVE!---I-I'M SHAKING LIKE A LEAF!

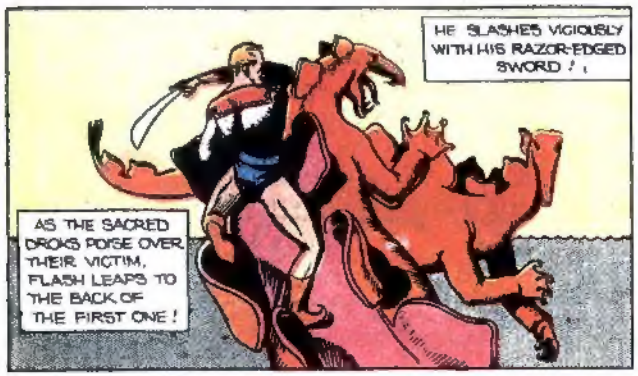
I'VE GOT TO WATCH MY STEP ---ONE SLIP AND THOSE WATER DRAGONS WILL TEAR US TO SHREDS!
PICKING UP HIS UNCONSCIOUS FRIEND FLASH CONTINUES ONWARD THRU THE TUNNEL OF TERROR

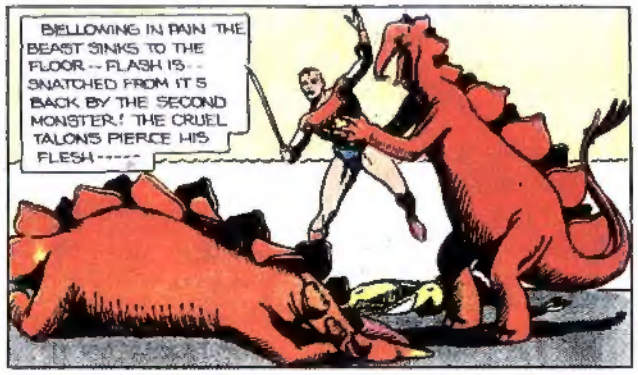
GOSH! THESE WHIRLPOOLS ARE TERRIBLE, BUT I'M GOING TO GET DALE AWAY FROM THAT CITY IF IT'S THE LAST THING I EVER DO!--- HELLO! A LIGHT!


FLASH COMES TO A LARGE UNDERGROUND ROOM, CONTAINING TWO SACRED DROKS!----THEY SLOWLY MOVE TOWARD HIM!
GREAT GUNS! THEY'VE SEEN ME!

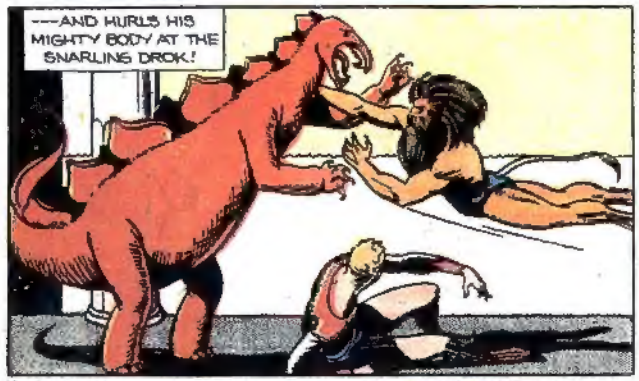

REALIZING THAT ESCAPE IS IMPOSSIBLE, WITH HIS HEAVY BURDEN, FLASH DROPS THE LION MAN AND ADVANCES---- SUDDENLY THE WALL OPENS! A MAN FALLS THRU!---

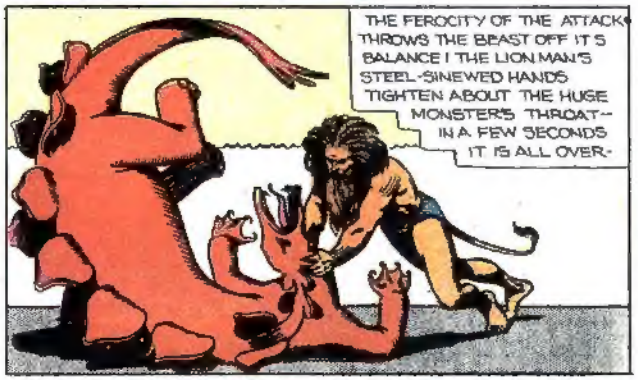

SEIZED WITH AN UNCONTROLLABLE FURY, HE LEAPS TO THE ATTACK!
AS THE GIANT RED DROKS RUSH TOWARD THEIR TERRIFIED VICTIM, FLASH HEARS THE MOCKING LAUGHTER OF THE EMPEROR!
TO BE CONTINUED
ALEX RAYMOND
2-25


HE SLASHES VICIOUSLY WITH HIS RAZOR-EDGED SWORD!
AS THE SACRED DROKS POISE OVER THEIR VICTIM, FLASH LEAPS TO THE BACK OF THE FIRST ONE!

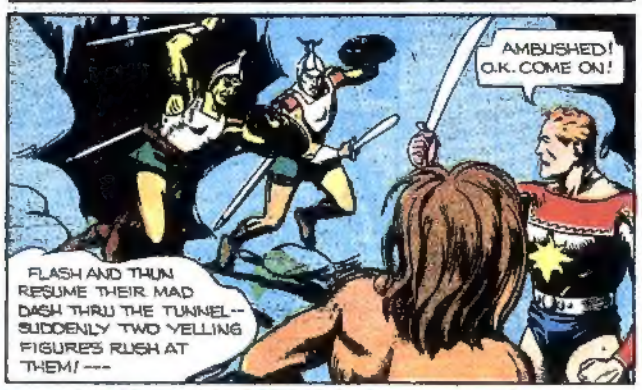

BELLOWING IN PAIN THE BEAST SINKS TO THE FLOOR--FLASH IS--SNATCHED FROM IT'S BACK BY THE SECOND MONSTER! THE CRUEL TALONS PIERCE HIS FLESH-----

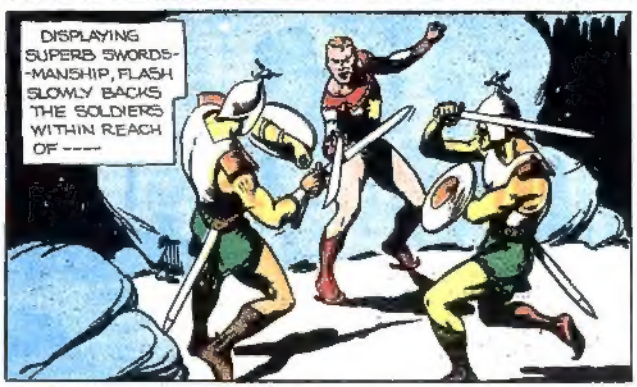
AT THIS INSTANT THUN, THE GIANT LION MAN, RECOVERS CONSCIOUSNESS--HE SPRINGS TO HIS FEET-----


---AND HURLS HIS MIGHTY BODY AT THE SNARLING DROK!


THE FEROCITY OF THE ATTACK THROWS THE BEAST OFF IT'S BALANCE! THE LION MAN'S STEEL-SINEWED HANDS TIGHTEN ABOUT THE HUGE MONSTER'S THROAT--IN A FEW SECONDS IT IS ALL OVER-

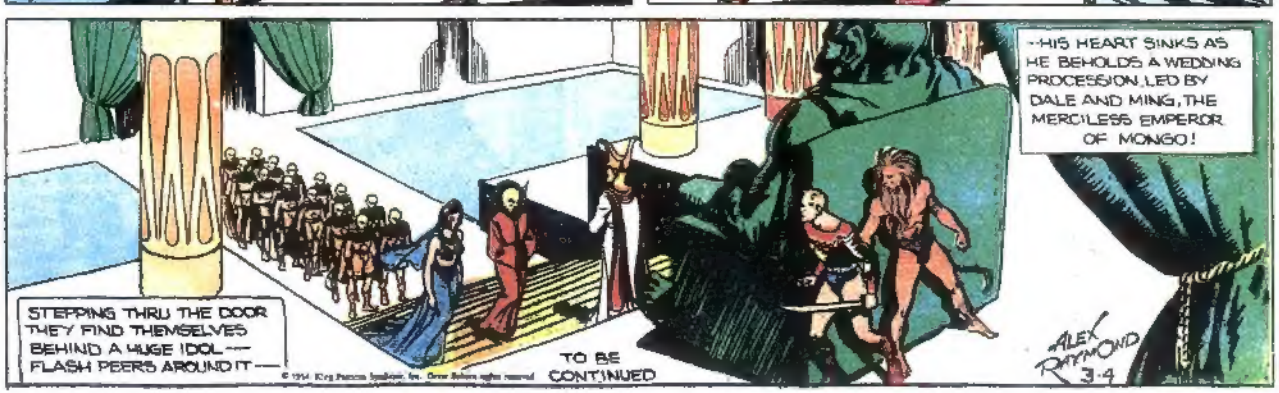
POOR FELLOW! ANOTHER VICTIM OF THE EMPEROR'S CRUELTY!
HE'S OKAY, THUN---HE FAINTED FROM FRIGHT--COME ON-WE CAN'T WASTE ANYMORE TIME, IF WE'RE GOING TO RESCUE DALE!

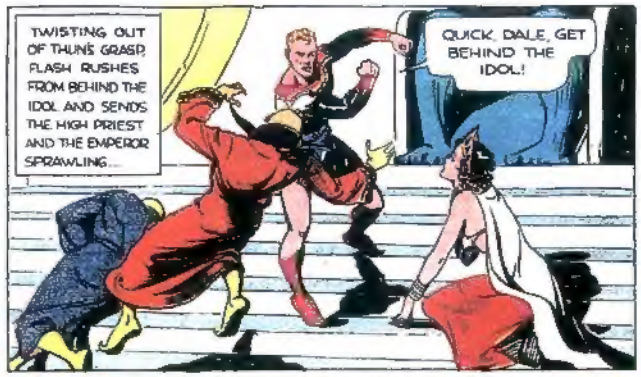

AMBUSHED! O.K. COME ON!
FLASH AND THUN RESUME THEIR MAD DASH THRU THE TUNNEL--SUDDENLY TWO YELLING FIGURES RUSH AT THEM!---

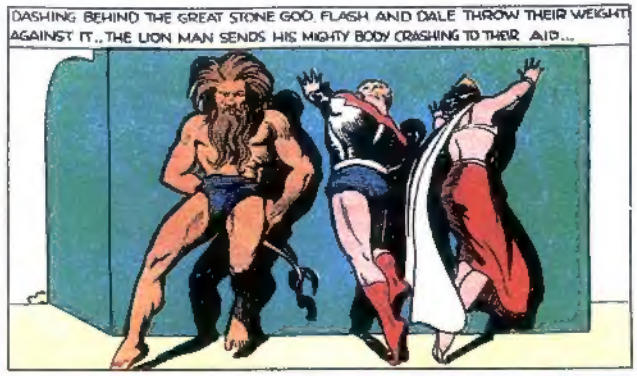

DISPLAYING SUPERB SWORDS--MANSHIP, FLASH SLOWLY BACKS THE SOLDIERS WITHIN REACH OF----

----THUN'S CRUSHING HANDS! ---THE SOLDIERS SINK TO THE GROUND--UNCONSCIOUS!

A DOOR!
YES, AND IT'S BEEN LEFT OPEN! COME ON, LET'S GO THRU!--IT MAY LEAD US INTO THE EMPEROR'S PALACE!


--HIS HEART SINKS AS HE BEHOLDS A WEDDING PROCESSION, LED BY DALE AND MING, THE MERCILESS EMPEROR OF MONGO!
STEPPING THRU THE DOOR THEY FIND THEMSELVES BEHIND A HUGE IDOL---FLASH PEERS AROUND IT---
TO BE CONTINUED
ALEX RAYMOND
3-4


TWISTING OUT OF THUN'S GRASP, FLASH RUSHES FROM BEHIND THE IDOL AND SENDS THE HIGH PRIEST AND THE EMPEROR SPRAWLING...
QUICK, DALE, GET BEHIND THE IDOL!

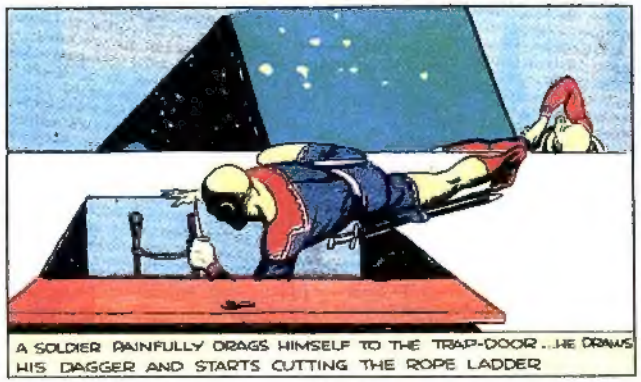

DASHING BEHIND THE GREAT STONE GOD, FLASH AND DALE THROW THEIR WEIGHT AGAINST IT.. THE LION MAN SENDS HIS MIGHTY BODY CRASHING TO THEIR AID...

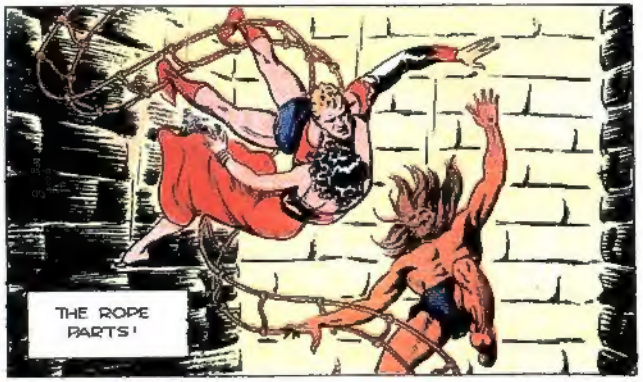
HOWLING IN WILD RAGE THE EMPEROR'S OFFICERS SWARM UP THE STEPS TO AVENGE THE INSULT TO THE ROYAL BRIDE GROOM. SUDDENLY THEY HESITATE!
BACK! BACK! THE IDOL IS TOTTERING!

A DEAFENING CRASH. THEN SILENCE ------ A BEDLAM OF SCREAMS AND GROANS FILLS THE AIR..

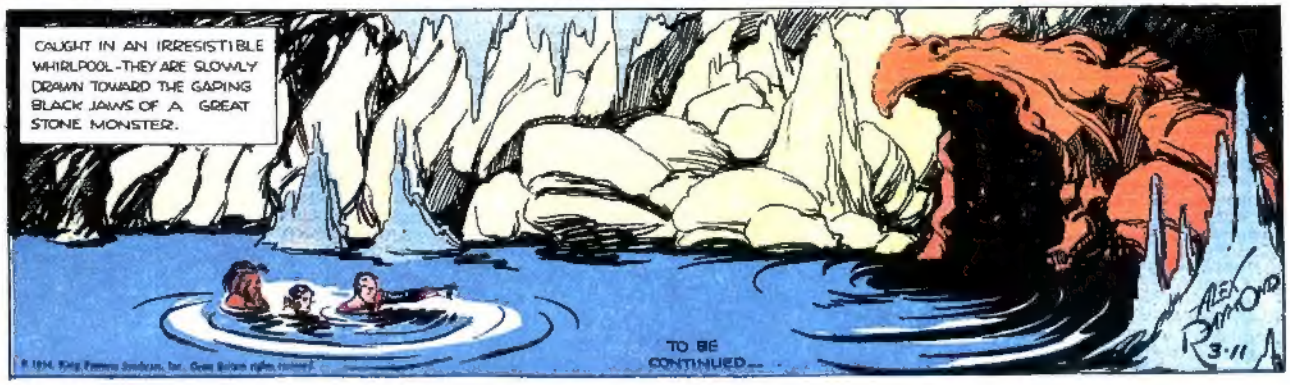
COME ON, DALE. THIS TRAP-DOOR THAT WAS UNDER THE IDOL IS OUR ONLY CHANCE. HERE LET ME CARRY YOU!
OH, FLASH IT'S, IT'S AWFUL!

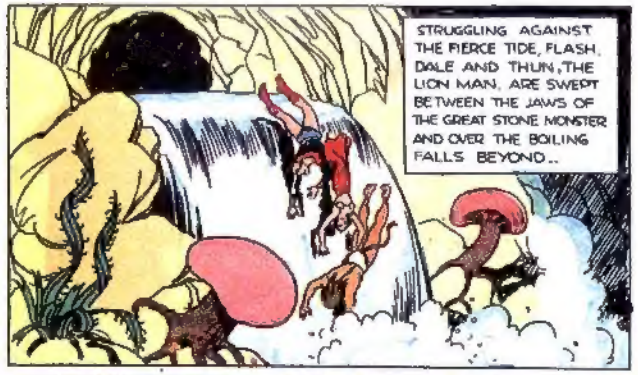
FLASH, DEAR, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS FOR ME--- EMPEROR MING WILL NEVER STOP UNTIL HE HAS TAKEN HIS HIDEOUS REVENGE!
I'LL RISK THAT!


A SOLDIER PAINFULLY DRAGS HIMSELF TO THE TRAP-DOOR...HE DRAWS HIS DAGGER AND STARTS CUTTING THE ROPE LADDER


THE ROPE PARTS!

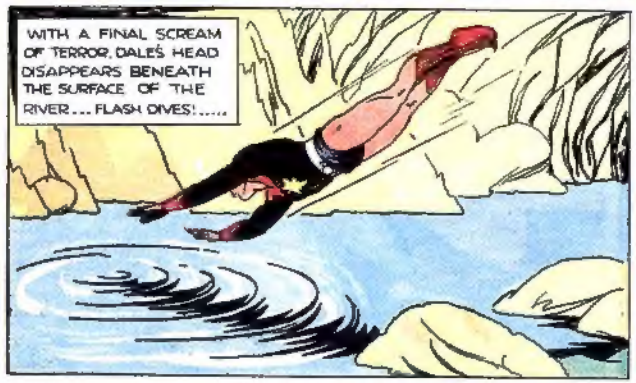
FLASH, DALE AND THE LION MAN ARE PLUNGED INTO AN UNDERGROUND RIVER

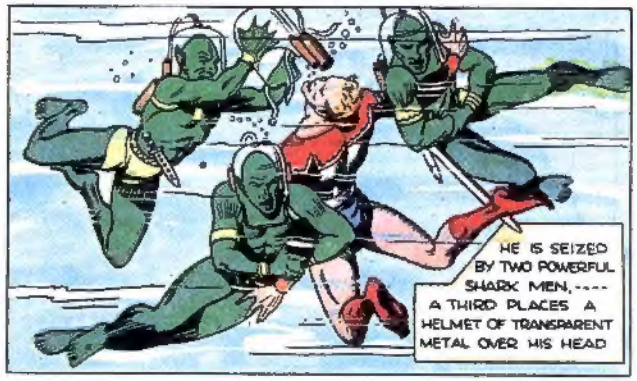

CAUGHT IN AN IRRESISTIBLE WHIRLPOOL-THEY ARE SLOWLY DRAWN TOWARD THE GAPING BLACK JAWS OF A GREAT STONE MONSTER.
TO BE CONTINUED...
ALEX RAYMOND 3-11

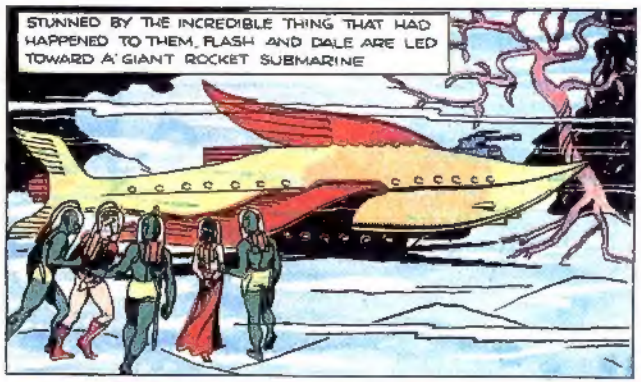

STRUGGLING AGAINST THE FIERCE TIDE, FLASH, DALE AND THUN, THE LION MAN, ARE SWEPT BETWEEN THE JAWS OF THE GREAT STONE MONSTER AND OVER THE BOILING FALLS BEYOND..

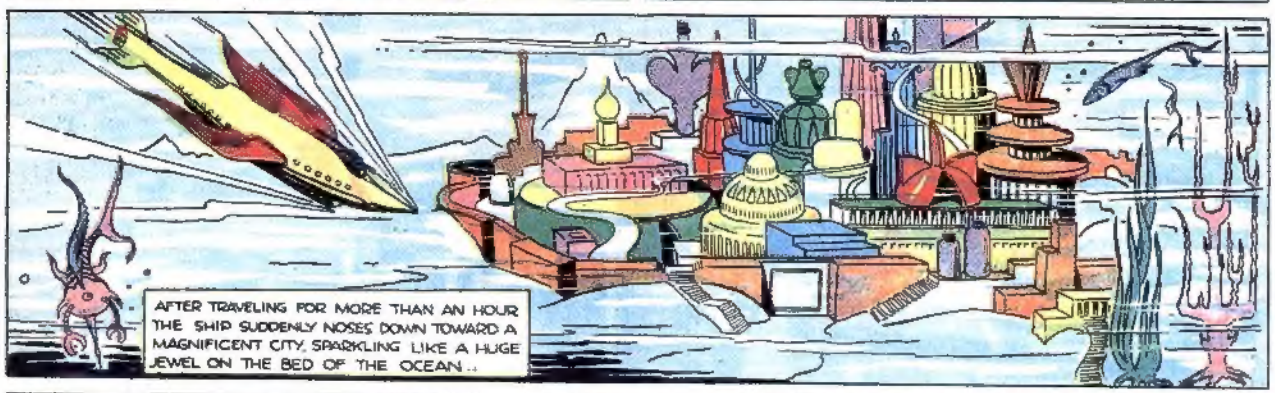
GEE, FOR A MINUTE I THOUGHT WE WERE ALL DOOMED ---- IS THUN HURT BADLY ?
NO, JUST A CRACK ON THE HEAD --- HE'LL COME TO IN A FEW SECONDS HERE, GIVE ME YOUR HAND!

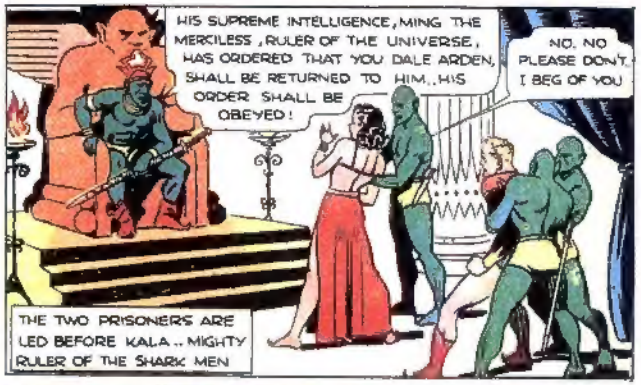
DALE REACHES FOR FLASH'S OUTSTRETCHED ARMS--SUDDENLY TWO CLUTCHING GREEN HANDS RISE FROM THE WATER --
FLASH! HELP.. HELP!
DALE! WHAT THE--

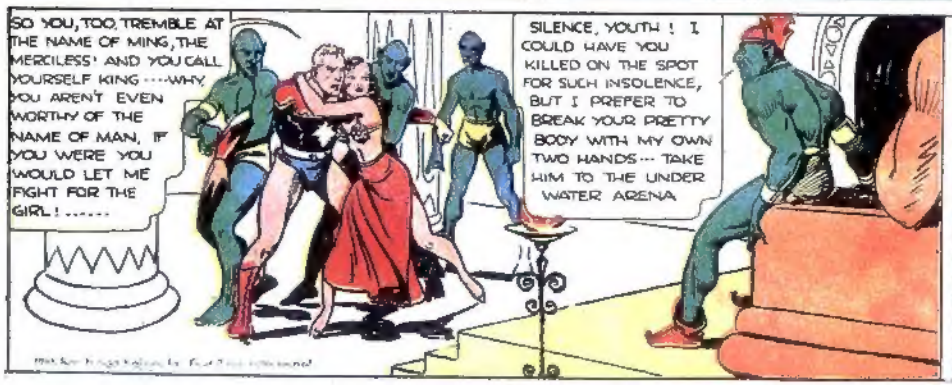

WITH A FINAL SCREAM OF TERROR, DALE'S HEAD DISAPPEARS BENEATH THE SURFACE OF THE RIVER... FLASH DIVES!.....

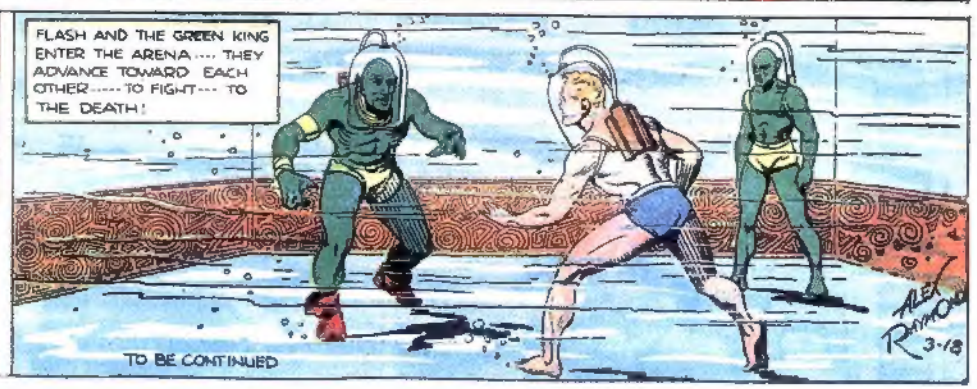

HE IS SEIZED BY TWO POWERFUL SHARK MEN, ---- A THIRD PLACES A HELMET OF TRANSPARENT METAL OVER HIS HEAD

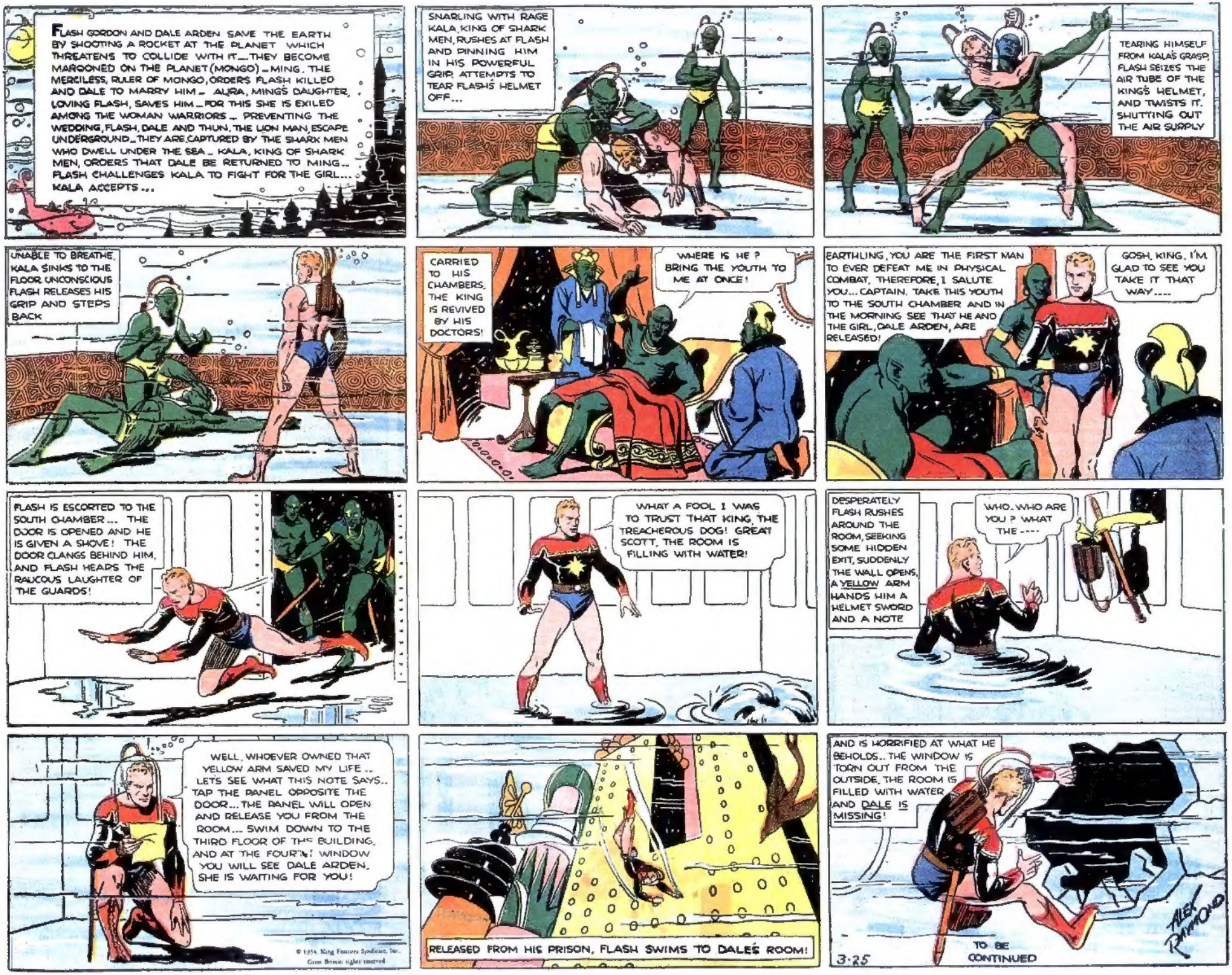

STUNNED BY THE INCREDIBLE THING THAT HAD HAPPENED TO THEM, FLASH AND DALE ARE LED TOWARD A GIANT ROCKET SUBMARINE


AFTER TRAVELING FOR MORE THAN AN HOUR THE SHIP SUDDENLY NOSES DOWN TOWARD A MAGNIFICENT CITY, SPARKLING LIKE A HUGE JEWEL ON THE BED OF THE OCEAN..


HIS SUPREME INTELLIGENCE, MING THE MERCILESS, RULER OF THE UNIVERSE, HAS ORDERED THAT YOU DALE ARDEN, SHALL BE RETURNED TO HIM.. HIS ORDER SHALL BE OBEYED!
NO, NO PLEASE DON'T, I BEG OF YOU
THE TWO PRISONERS ARE LED BEFORE KALA.. MIGHTY RULER OF THE SHARK MEN


SO YOU, TOO, TREMBLE AT THE NAME OF MING, THE MERCILESS! AND YOU CALL YOURSELF KING ---- WHY YOU AREN'T EVEN WORTHY OF THE NAME OF MAN, IF YOU WERE YOU WOULD LET ME FIGHT FOR THE GIRL! .....
SILENCE, YOUTH! I COULD HAVE YOU KILLED ON THE SPOT FOR SUCH INSOLENCE, BUT I PREFER TO BREAK YOUR PRETTY BODY WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS --- TAKE HIM TO THE UNDER WATER ARENA


FLASH AND THE GREEN KING ENTER THE ARENA .... THEY ADVANCE TOWARD EACH OTHER ----- TO FIGHT --- TO THE DEATH!
TO BE CONTINUED
ALEX RAYMOND 3-18


FLASH GORDON AND DALE ARDEN SAVE THE EARTH BY SHOOTING A ROCKET AT THE PLANET WHICH THREATENS TO COLLIDE WITH IT...THEY BECOME MAROONED ON THE PLANET (MONGO) - MING, THE MERCILESS, RULER OF MONGO, ORDERS FLASH KILLED AND DALE TO MARRY HIM - ALIRA, MING'S DAUGHTER, LOVING FLASH, SAVES HIM - FOR THIS SHE IS EXILED AMONG THE WOMAN WARRIORS - PREVENTING THE WEDDING, FLASH, DALE AND THUN, THE LION MAN, ESCAPE UNDERGROUND - THEY ARE CAPTURED BY THE SHARK MEN WHO DWELL UNDER THE SEA - KALA, KING OF SHARK MEN, ORDERS THAT DALE BE RETURNED TO MING... FLASH CHALLENGES KALA TO FIGHT FOR THE GIRL... KALA ACCEPTS...
SNARLING WITH RAGE KALA, KING OF SHARK MEN, RUSHES AT FLASH AND PINNING HIM IN HIS POWERFUL GRIP, ATTEMPTS TO TEAR FLASH'S HELMET OFF...
TEARING HIMSELF FROM KALA'S GRASP, FLASH SEIZES THE AIR TUBE OF THE KING'S HELMET, AND TWISTS IT, SHUTTING OUT THE AIR SUPPLY
UNABLE TO BREATHE, KALA SINKS TO THE FLOOR UNCONSCIOUS FLASH RELEASES HIS GRIP AND STEPS BACK
CARRIED TO HIS CHAMBERS, THE KING IS REVIVED BY HIS DOCTORS!
WHERE IS HE? BRING THE YOUTH TO ME AT ONCE!
EARTHLING, YOU ARE THE FIRST MAN TO EVER DEFEAT ME IN PHYSICAL COMBAT, THEREFORE, I SALUTE YOU... CAPTAIN. TAKE THIS YOUTH TO THE SOUTH CHAMBER AND IN THE MORNING SEE THAT HE AND THE GIRL, DALE ARDEN, ARE RELEASED!
GOSH, KING, I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU TAKE IT THAT WAY....
FLASH IS ESCORTED TO THE SOUTH CHAMBER... THE DOOR IS OPENED AND HE IS GIVEN A SHOVE! THE DOOR CLANGS BEHIND HIM, AND FLASH HEARS THE RAUCOUS LAUGHTER OF THE GUARDS!
WHAT A FOOL I WAS TO TRUST THAT KING, THE TREACHEROUS DOG! GREAT SCOTT, THE ROOM IS FILLING WITH WATER!
DESPERATELY FLASH RUSHES AROUND THE ROOM, SEEKING SOME HIDDEN EXIT, SUDDENLY THE WALL OPENS, A YELLOW ARM HANDS HIM A HELMET SWORD AND A NOTE
WHO...WHO ARE YOU? WHAT THE ----
WELL, WHOEVER OWNED THAT YELLOW ARM SAVED MY LIFE... LETS SEE WHAT THIS NOTE SAYS... TAP THE PANEL OPPOSITE THE DOOR... THE PANEL WILL OPEN AND RELEASE YOU FROM THE ROOM... SWIM DOWN TO THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE BUILDING, AND AT THE FOURTH WINDOW YOU WILL SEE DALE ARDEN, SHE IS WAITING FOR YOU!
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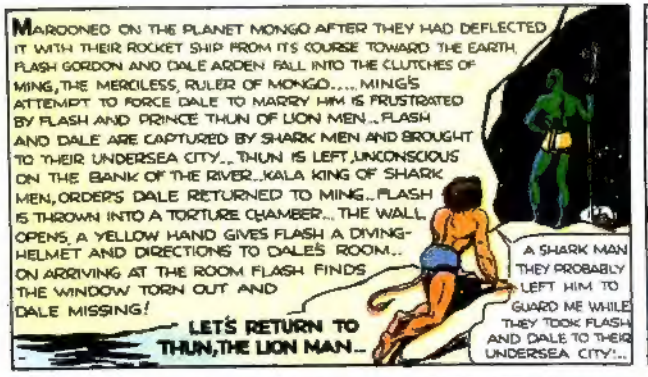
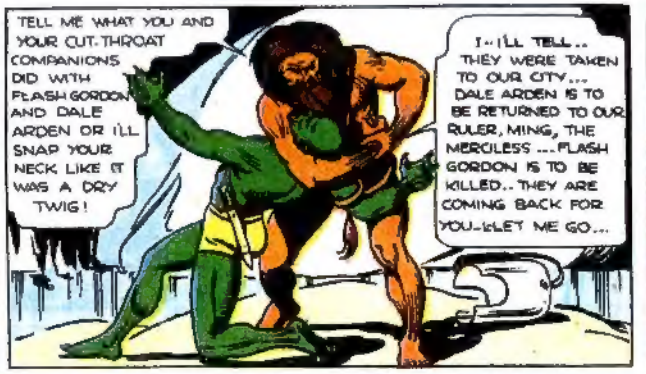
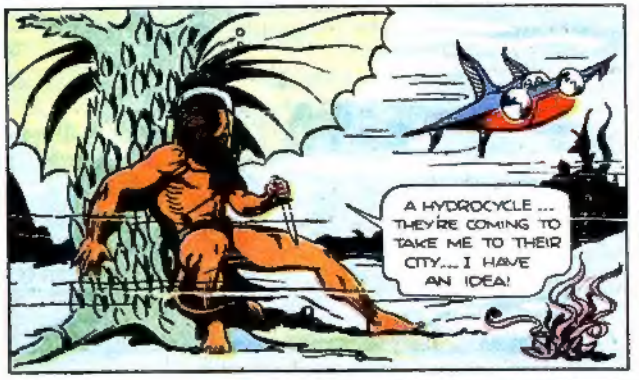
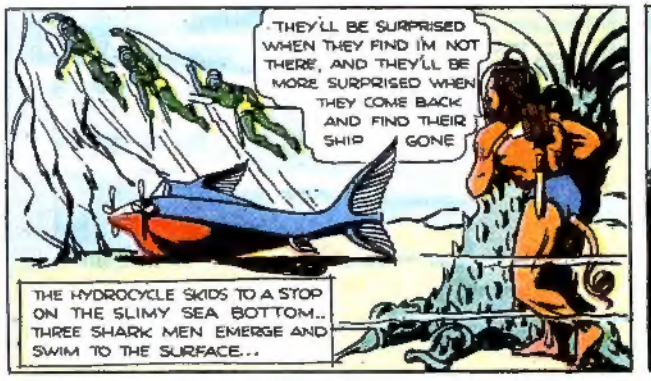
RELEASED FROM HIS PRISON, FLASH SWIMS TO DALE'S ROOM!
AND IS HORRIFIED AT WHAT HE BEHOLDS... THE WINDOW IS TORN OUT FROM THE OUTSIDE, THE ROOM IS FILLED WITH WATER AND DALE IS MISSING!
ALEX RAYMOND
3-25
TO BE CONTINUED

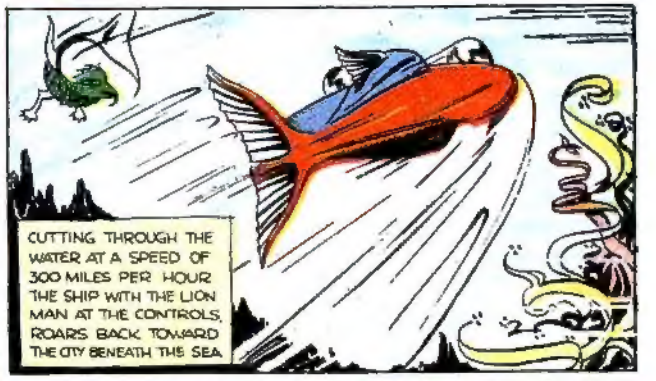

MAROONED ON THE PLANET MONGO AFTER THEY HAD DEFLECTED IT WITH THEIR ROCKET SHIP FROM ITS COURSE TOWARD THE EARTH, FLASH GORDON AND DALE ARDEN FALL INTO THE CLUTCHES OF MING, THE MERCILESS, RULER OF MONGO.... MING'S ATTEMPT TO FORCE DALE TO MARRY HIM IS FRUSTRATED BY FLASH AND PRINCE THUN OF LION MEN... FLASH AND DALE ARE CAPTURED BY SHARK MEN AND BROUGHT TO THEIR UNDERSEA CITY... THUN IS LEFT, UNCONSCIOUS ON THE BANK OF THE RIVER... KALA KING OF SHARK MEN, ORDERS DALE RETURNED TO MING... FLASH IS THROWN INTO A TORTURE CHAMBER... THE WALL OPENS, A YELLOW HAND GIVES FLASH A DIVING-HELMET AND DIRECTIONS TO DALE'S ROOM... ON ARRIVING AT THE ROOM FLASH FINDS THE WINDOW TORN OUT AND DALE MISSING!
LET'S RETURN TO THUN, THE LION MAN...
A SHARK MAN THEY PROBABLY LEFT HIM TO GUARD ME WHILE THEY TOOK FLASH AND DALE TO THEIR UNDERSEA CITY!...

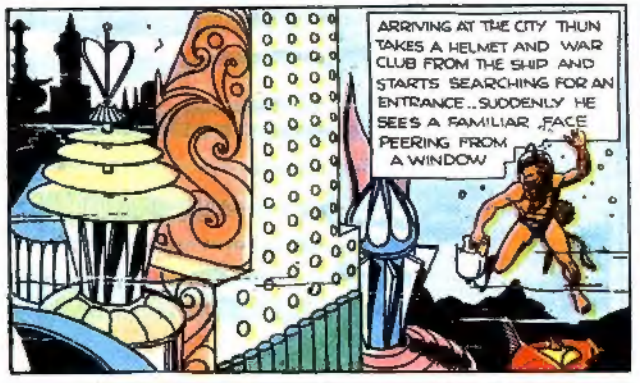

TELL ME WHAT YOU AND YOUR CUT-THROAT COMPANIONS DID WITH FLASH GORDON AND DALE ARDEN OR I'LL SNAP YOUR NECK LIKE IT WAS A DRY TWIG!
I--I'LL TELL... THEY WERE TAKEN TO OUR CITY... DALE ARDEN IS TO BE RETURNED TO OUR RULER, MING, THE MERCILESS ... FLASH GORDON IS TO BE KILLED... THEY ARE COMING BACK FOR YOU--LET ME GO...

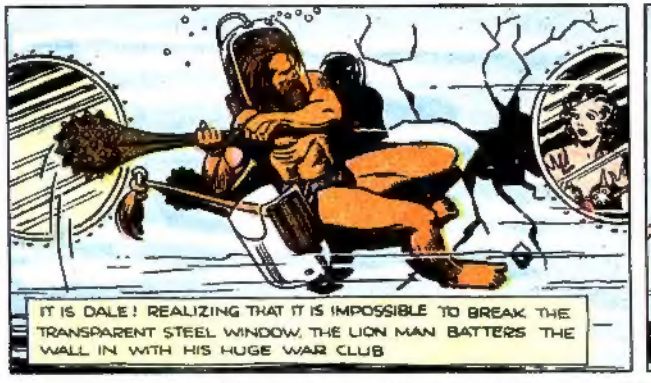
WELL, I GOT THAT FELLOW'S HELMET AND KNIFE. NOW IF I CAN ONLY GET TO THE CITY IN TIME... WHAT'S THAT IN THE DISTANCE?.. LOOKS LIKE A SEA-MONSTER!

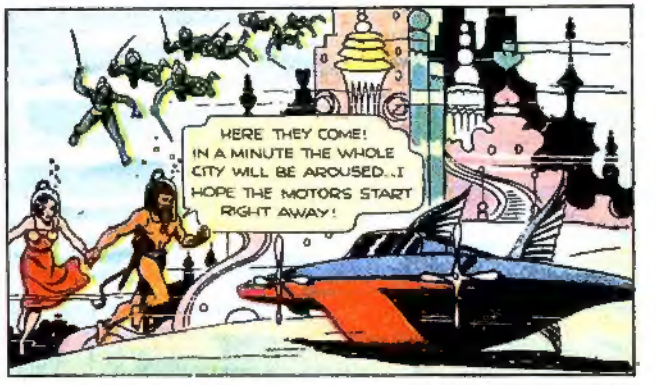

A HYDROCYCLE ... THEY'RE COMING TO TAKE ME TO THEIR CITY... I HAVE AN IDEA!

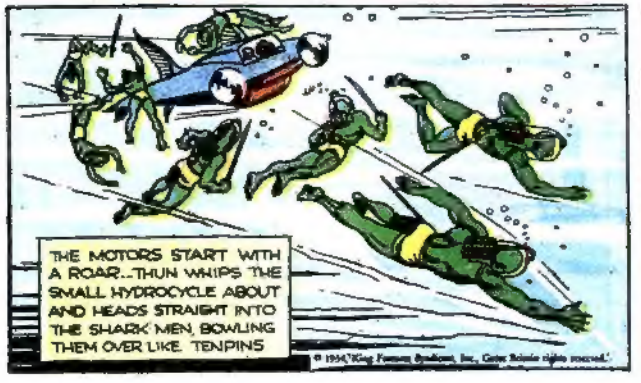

THEY'LL BE SURPRISED WHEN THEY FIND I'M NOT THERE, AND THEY'LL BE MORE SURPRISED WHEN THEY COME BACK AND FIND THEIR SHIP GONE
THE HYDROCYCLE SKIDS TO A STOP ON THE SLIMY SEA BOTTOM... THREE SHARK MEN EMERGE AND SWIM TO THE SURFACE...


CUTTING THROUGH THE WATER AT A SPEED OF 300 MILES PER HOUR THE SHIP WITH THE LION MAN AT THE CONTROLS, ROARS BACK TOWARD THE CITY BENEATH THE SEA


ARRIVING AT THE CITY THUN TAKES A HELMET AND WAR CLUB FROM THE SHIP AND STARTS SEARCHING FOR AN ENTRANCE.. SUDDENLY HE SEES A FAMILIAR FACE PEERING FROM A WINDOW


IT IS DALE! REALIZING THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO BREAK THE TRANSPARENT STEEL WINDOW, THE LION MAN BATTERS THE WALL IN WITH HIS HUGE WAR CLUB


HERE THEY COME! IN A MINUTE THE WHOLE CITY WILL BE AROUSED.. I HOPE THE MOTORS START RIGHT AWAY!


THE MOTORS START WITH A ROAR... THUN WHIPS THE SMALL HYDROCYCLE ABOUT AND HEADS STRAIGHT INTO THE SHARK MEN, BOWLING THEM OVER LIKE TENPINS
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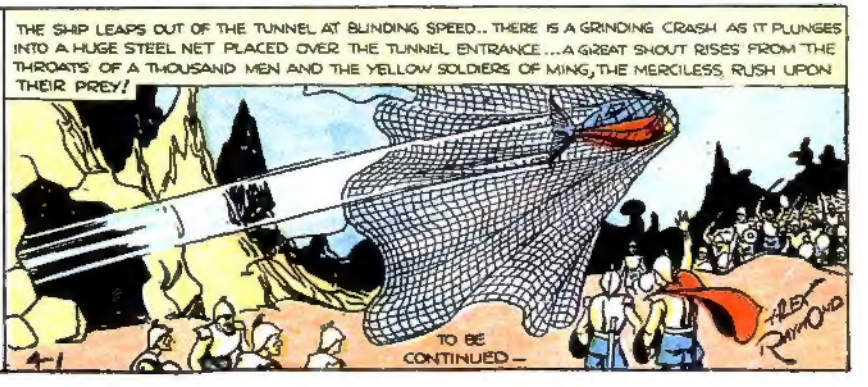
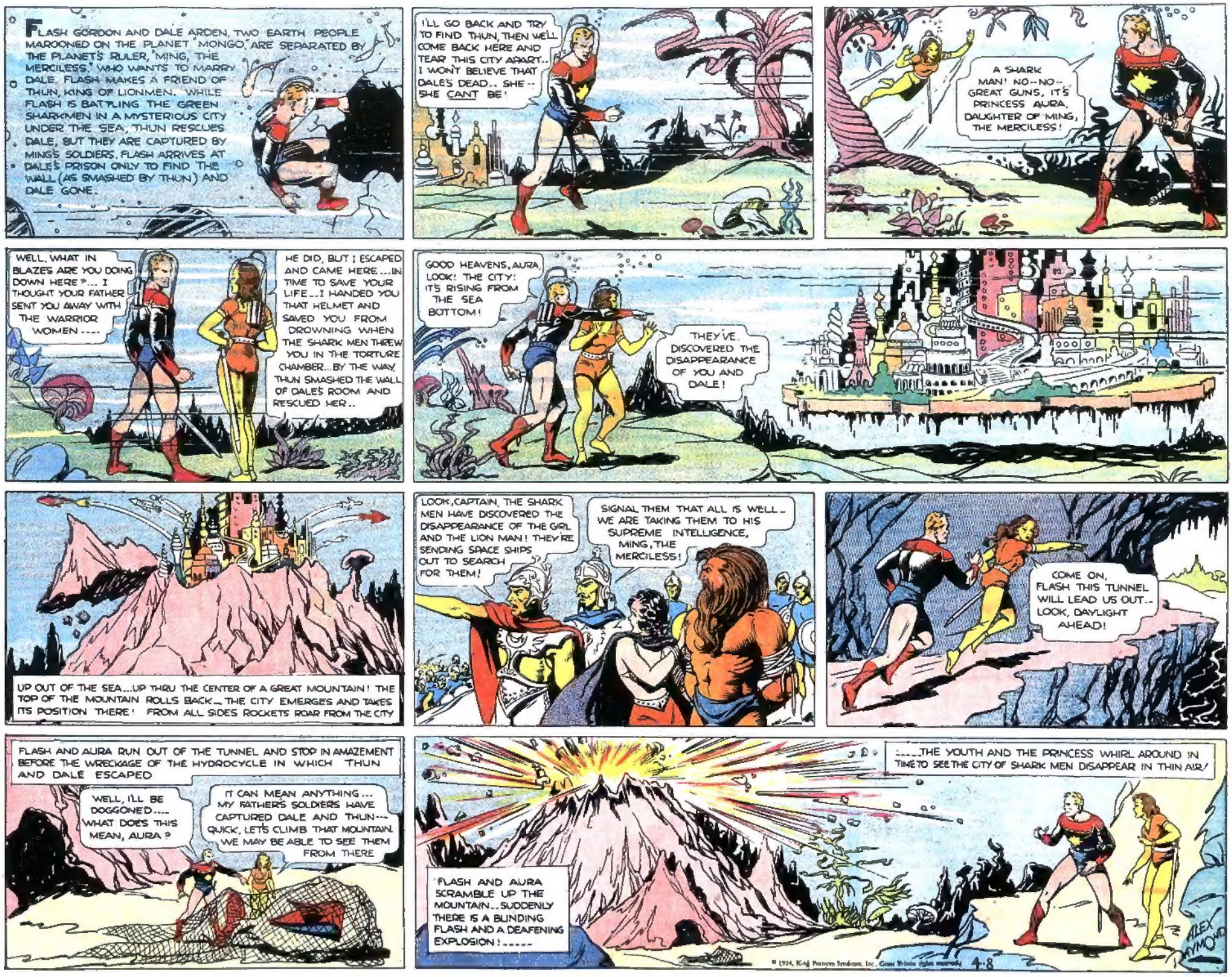
DON'T WORRY, DALE ... WE'RE OUT OF THE WATER NOW... WE'RE IN A TUNNEL WHICH WILL LEAD US OUT IN THE OPEN.. WE'LL FLY TO MY COUNTRY AND BRING A FLEET OF SPACE-GYROS AND HUNDREDS OF LION MEN TO FLASH'S RESCUE
OH, THUN -- WE'VE GOT TO GO BACK.. PLEASE WE MUST SAVE FLASH!


THE SHIP LEAPS OUT OF THE TUNNEL AT BLINDING SPEED.. THERE IS A GRINDING CRASH AS IT PLUNGES INTO A HUGE STEEL NET PLACED OVER THE TUNNEL ENTRANCE ... A GREAT SHOUT RISES FROM THE THROATS OF A THOUSAND MEN AND THE YELLOW SOLDIERS OF MING, THE MERCILESS, RUSH UPON THEIR PREY!
TO BE CONTINUED--
ALEX RAYMOND


FLASH GORDON AND DALE ARDEN, TWO EARTH PEOPLE MAROONED ON THE PLANET "MONGO," ARE SEPARATED BY THE PLANET'S RULER, "MING, THE MERCILESS," WHO WANTS TO MARRY DALE. FLASH MAKES A FRIEND OF THUN, KING OF LIONMEN. WHILE FLASH IS BATTLING THE GREEN SHARKMEN IN A MYSTERIOUS CITY UNDER THE SEA, THUN RESCUES DALE, BUT THEY ARE CAPTURED BY MING'S SOLDIERS. FLASH ARRIVES AT DALE'S PRISON ONLY TO FIND THE WALL (AS SMASHED BY THUN) AND DALE GONE.
I'LL GO BACK AND TRY TO FIND THUN, THEN WE'LL COME BACK HERE AND TEAR THIS CITY APART.. I WON'T BELIEVE THAT DALE'S DEAD.. SHE-- SHE CAN'T BE!
A SHARK MAN! NO--NO-- GREAT GUNS, IT'S PRINCESS AURA, DAUGHTER OF MING, THE MERCILESS!
WELL, WHAT IN BLAZES ARE YOU DOING DOWN HERE?... I THOUGHT YOUR FATHER SENT YOU AWAY WITH THE WARRIOR WOMEN....
HE DID, BUT I ESCAPED AND CAME HERE...IN TIME TO SAVE YOUR LIFE...I HANDED YOU THAT HELMET AND SAVED YOU FROM DROWNING WHEN THE SHARK MEN THREW YOU IN THE TORTURE CHAMBER...BY THE WAY, THUN SMASHED THE WALL OF DALE'S ROOM AND RESCUED HER..
GOOD HEAVENS, AURA, LOOK! THE CITY! IT'S RISING FROM THE SEA BOTTOM!
THEY'VE DISCOVERED THE DISAPPEARANCE OF YOU AND DALE!
UP OUT OF THE SEA...UP THRU THE CENTER OF A GREAT MOUNTAIN! THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN ROLLS BACK... THE CITY EMERGES AND TAKES ITS POSITION THERE! FROM ALL SIDES ROCKETS ROAR FROM THE CITY
LOOK, CAPTAIN, THE SHARK MEN HAVE DISCOVERED THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE GIRL AND THE LION MAN! THEY'RE SENDING SPACE SHIPS OUT TO SEARCH FOR THEM!
SIGNAL THEM THAT ALL IS WELL.. WE ARE TAKING THEM TO HIS SUPREME INTELLIGENCE, MING, THE MERCILESS!
COME ON, FLASH THIS TUNNEL WILL LEAD US OUT.. LOOK, DAYLIGHT AHEAD!
FLASH AND AURA RUN OUT OF THE TUNNEL AND STOP IN AMAZEMENT BEFORE THE WRECKAGE OF THE HYDROCYCLE IN WHICH THUN AND DALE ESCAPED
WELL, I'LL BE DOGGONED.... WHAT DOES THIS MEAN, AURA?
IT CAN MEAN ANYTHING... MY FATHER'S SOLDIERS HAVE CAPTURED DALE AND THUN--- QUICK, LET'S CLIMB THAT MOUNTAIN. WE MAY BE ABLE TO SEE THEM FROM THERE
FLASH AND AURA SCRAMBLE UP THE MOUNTAIN...SUDDENLY THERE IS A BLINDING FLASH AND A DEAFENING EXPLOSION!.....
.....THE YOUTH AND THE PRINCESS WHIRL AROUND IN TIME TO SEE THE CITY OF SHARK MEN DISAPPEAR IN THIN AIR!
ALEX RAYMOND
4-8